The Literary Digest

NEW YORK, JULY 26, 1930

TOPICS OF THE DAY

New York's Follies and Scandals of 1930

IN THE ONE CITY, "the supremacy of gangdom." In the other, "the supremacy of boodledom."

Thus the Springfield *Republican* tars both Chicago and New York with the brush of comparison, in an editorial dealing with the latest outcroppings of civic scandal in the metropolis.

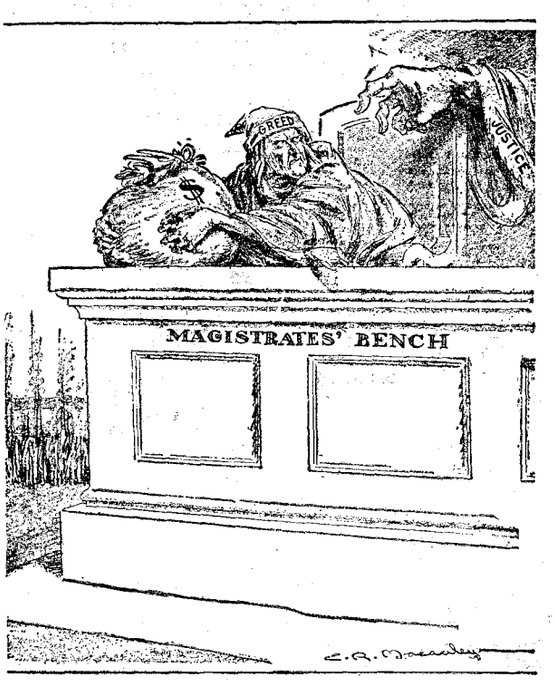
Once again the city's courts are involved, and from the press accounts two startling pictures leap to the eye:

An ex-convict sitting on the bench with a County Judge.

A City Magistrate selling mine stock in his chambers.

As former Kings County Judge W. Bernard Vause, of Brooklyn, goes on trial in a mail fraud case growing out of the $400,000 failure of the Columbia Finance Corporation, another member of the bench, Magistrate George F. Ewald, the plump and placid Traffic Court judge, is indicted for mail fraud and conspiracy in what the Federal Prosecutor calls 'hole-in-the-ground" mine stock.

Metropolitan newspapers demand a clean-up.



Unseat Him!
—Macauley in the Brooklyn "Eagle."

SERIOUS enough in themselves, the Vause and Ewald cases are viewed, it seems, simply as two phases of an underlying situation which cries for correction. Smarting under the ignominy of other recent scandals—for, in all, four judges have stept down under charges in the last year, we read—Father Knickerbocker seems determined to force remedial action.

Sharp warnings and demands are being directed at Tammany Hall, Mayor Walker is being made the target for some severe criticism, and louder grows the talk of calling upon the State to investigate New York City's affairs to put them in order.

For a summary of the evil conditions which have been exposed in the metropolis, we borrow from the New York *Telegram:*

"Ten major scandals have flared up among the city's public office holders during the last three years.

"Dragged into the light, they reveal thefts from the taxpayers known to total $5,000,000, and probably reaching a sum three times that amount.

"They uncovered bribes amounting to more than $100,000 and left hints of direct corruption of far greater extent.

"They resulted in a series of Grand Jury inquiries, ending in recommendations by Grand Jury or District Attorney for further investigations and for reorganizations of departments.

"They resulted in one demand after another for a State inquiry by a legislative or gubernatorial commission into New York City affairs, growing in recent weeks into a chorus of almost every political faction except the administration Democrats.

"Six persons who held positions of public trust are serving jail sentences as a result of the scandals. They include Maurice E. Connolly, most powerful of Queens bosses.

"A State official—Frank H. Warder, former State Banking Commissioner—is under conviction, but has appealed. Thirty-five persons have faced criminal charges."

The "ten major scandals" are listed by *The Telegram* as follows:

"1. The Queens sewer case.

"2. The Street Cleaning Department pay-roll padding scandal.

"3. The County Clerk fees shortage scandal.

"4. The City Trust case, involving Warder and former General Sessions Judge Francis X. Mancuso, among other prominent citizens.

"5. The Albert H. Vitale case, ending in the ousting of the principal as a Magistrate.

"6. The Probation Department scandal, which led to the resignation of Edwin J. Cooley as Probation Chief for General Sessions. Cooley subsequently was acquitted by a jury which recommended his reinstatement.

"7. The W. Bernard Vause case, involving charges of mail fraud, grand larceny and perjury and intimations of bribery, and resulting in the resignation of the principal as Kings County Judge.

"8. The Board of Standards and Appeals scandal, resulting in the resignation of William E. Walsh as chairman and in his indictment on charges of accepting a gratuity while holding public office and failing to make an income-tax return.

"9. The case of Magistrate Francis X. McQuade, whose right to remain upon the bench is to be investigated by the Bar Association.

"10. The indictment of Magistrate George F. Ewald on a mail fraud charge."

INDICTED with Magistrate Ewald, after an investigation by United States Attorney Tuttle, were his brother, Dr. Louis A. Ewald, and four other men associated with the Cotter Butte Mines, Inc. Quoting *The World:*

"Mr. Tuttle has subpenaed all the records of Traffic Court cases handled by Magistrate Ewald in the hope of establishing that some persons who were treated leniently by the 'hard-boiled' Magistrate subsequently purchased stock in the Cotter Butte Mines.

"The Federal Prosecutor made public the records relating to the case of William Badger which are already in his possession. Badger, according to the indictment, was acquitted of speeding

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Keystone View photograph — Keystone View photograph — P. & A. photograph

Magistrate Vitale — County Judge Vause — Magistrate Ewald — Judge Mancuso

Four New York City judges who have left the bench under fire. Vitale was ousted; the others resigned.

by Ewald at a private hearing November 9, 1928, altho he was a third offender, after Abe April, politically minded furrier, had interceded for him. Then, it is charged, April bought 1,000 shares of Cotter Butte stock from Ewald, giving him a $1,000 check. Ewald received a $250 commission from the mining company for this transaction, the indictment alleges."

THE mail fraud trial of Judge Vause and six codefendants also grew out of an investigation by the Federal Prosecutor, and it is in this case that we hear of an ex-convict sitting with the jurist. Again quoting *The World:*

"Austin H. Montgomery, hefty ex-convict and ex-bucket-shopper, who says he went to Atlanta penitentiary 'to shield' former Kings County Judge W. Bernard Vause, yesterday labeled Vause a partner in the venture that caused Montgomery's indictment in a mail fraud case and his flight to Canada in 1923. . . .

"His appearance on the stand for direct examination by United States Attorney Tuttle came with dramatic suddenness after a procession of scrubwomen, bakers, and laborers had told a crowded court-room, with shaking voices, how they had sunk their life savings in the 'bank' directed by Vause.

"Previously it had been expected that Montgomery would appear at the trial as a defense witness. Instead, he allowed himself to be led by the Federal Prosecutor step by step through his association with Vause in the Community Finance Corporation, his prison sojourn, his subsequent return to New York, his appeal to Judge Vause for a loan, and the latter's offer to arrange the loan for him through the newly formed Columbia Finance Company.

"He told with apparent relish how he questioned Vause sharply when the loan wasn't immediately forthcoming, and how the then Kings County Judge reassured him, saying he would demonstrate his confidence in Montgomery by inviting him to sit on the bench beside him during court.

"Montgomery, fresh from Atlanta and still bearing the prison pallor, did actually sit beside Vause three days, as that Judge administered justice, he said. Still he didn't obtain the loan, and finally he was induced to go into the Columbia Finance Company by the promise that he would be made general manager and could sell the company's stock, he testified."

TURNING to other judges who have stept down under fire, *The Telegram* recalls that General Sessions Judge Francis X. Mancuso "was forced to resign" from the bench when the City Trust Company, with which he was associated, failed in 1929. In this case, Frank H. Warder, former State Banking Commissioner, "was convicted by a jury of receiving almost $100,000 in bribes for allowing the enterprise to run, tho it was insolvent." Magistrate Vitale "was derricked from the bench early this year by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court" for accepting a $19,000 loan from the late Arnold Rothstein, "notorious gambler." The same paper also tells us:

"Among the misconduct charges affecting members of the judiciary have been unsuccessful attacks on Mark Rudich and David Hirshfield, Brooklyn magistrates. Improper conduct upon the bench in settling cases was charged against both. The Bar Association investigated. It found Rudich not culpable, tho guilty of conduct open to criticism. It recommended that Hirshfield be brought to trial, but the Appellate Division, tho censuring the magistrate's conduct, decided the charges did not warrant trial. The vote of the bench was 3 to 2."

THE latest case involving charges against a magistrate is that of Magistrate Francis X. McQuade, in which the Bar Association was to investigate accusations made by Norman Thomas, Socialist leader.

"The charges," says *The Evening Post*, "are that Magistrate McQuade is unfit to sit on the bench because he accepted a salary of $10,000 a year as treasurer of the National Exhibition Company, owners of the New York Giants."

Amid all this turmoil involving the courts, the papers descry one hopeful factor which they seem to feel will result in the elevation of the magistracy. That is the recent appointment by Mayor Walker of Joseph E. Corrigan as Chief Magistrate. One of the first things he did was to force Magistrate Ewald to resign by giving him the alternative of facing charges before the Appellate Division. At the same time he shook up the courts by transferring twenty-five clerks, the object being to thwart favoritism to certain defendants.

"How much more evidence does New York require that her judiciary is vitiated and public confidence in her courts being sapped?" inquires the Newark *Evening News*, and the New York *Times* agrees that "the hour has come for the Mayor to summon both the demolition and reconstruction crews"; otherwise "the community will be inclined to condemn the whole edifice of city government as unsound."

"HOW many more have we who mix bench and business, whose scruples are scant, whose consciences are tough, whose skins are thick?" asks *The Evening World*, which, in another editorial, warns that "Tammany silence and the jaunty cocksureness of the Mayor will not suffice to dissipate public misgiving created in the past eighteen months." Also:

"Administrative scandals in this city are, at the present moment, no mere pipe-dream of an opposition party looking for campaign issues. They are, on the contrary, real, ominous, and of a number and size to disquiet voters of all parties.

"Tammany is making the mistake of its life if it thinks otherwise. . . .

"The mere fact that Republicans are ready to exploit such scandals for purely partizan purposes does not for one instant relieve Tammany of responsibility for repairing damaged standards of government in the great community where its power is paramount."

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The Battle of the Wheat

WHO PUT THE HEAT IN WHEAT?

That's not a foolish question either, because hot as a July wheat-field in Kansas, nay, even hotter, is the fight being waged over the devoted head of Chairman Alexander Legge of the Federal Farm Board, who celebrates a full year in office by touring the wheat country, preaching crop curtailment, stirring up controversy everywhere.

With wheat prices the lowest in sixteen years, with a new crop now coming on the market a little larger than last year's, with 60,000,000 bushels of hold-over wheat still in the hands of the Farm Board, with the Department of Agriculture hinting that low prices may continue for years, with all commodity and security prices influenced by the depression in wheat, with the possibility of the farmers' buying power being still more seriously impaired to the further discouragement of our manufacturers—well, the economic side of the wheat crisis seems all important.

But here is President Hoover's farm-relief policy sharply challenged by both conservatives and radicals; the head of his Farm Board being asked to resign in Kansas; pro-Administration Kansas Senators begging the President to ask the Farm Board to invest more millions in wheat, and the President resolutely refusing; with the Democrats making their best of what they consider a Republican embarrassment; with every Middle-Western Congressman and Senator seeking reelection wondering how many votes cheap wheat will cost him in November; with editors recalling the history of farm prices that have precipitated political revolutions in the past—here's a pretty set of political problems.

And of course there is the purely farm angle, with the sharp debate over the merits of acreage reduction.

This seems to be the chief center of interest of newspapers in the wheat country.

ELSEWHERE we find much editorial argument to the effect that the Agricultural Marketing Act is far from a 100 per cent. success. As the New York *Journal of Commerce* sums it up, "it is neither fish, flesh nor fowl, but a political makeshift deserving to fail." As the Richmond *News-Leader* sees it, "the Farm Board has been in existence just one year, and finds itself so buried in grain that it is powerless to raise a hand to help the farmers, tho the elevators are overflowing and the price of July wheat has fallen to $.87¼." However, except in the agricultural States, press opinion seems to uphold Mr. Legge in refusing to take another $100,000,000 worth of wheat off the market, and to applaud his acreage-reduction campaign, while admitting that such reduction is by no means as simple as it sounds.

All the spring the arguments for curtailing wheat acreage came from the Department of Agriculture and the Farm Board headquarters at Washington. At the end of March, it will be remembered, a group of economists left Washington to explain to the spring wheat States of the Northwest how much better off they would be if they devoted some of the land usually devoted to wheat to the production of flax, barley, rye, oats, alfalfa, and sweet clover. Country papers in the wheat belt, according to a Consolidated Press observer in Kansas City, became bitterly critical of Mr. Legge, whose suggestions seemed to them an effort to weaken the prosperity of the plains country.

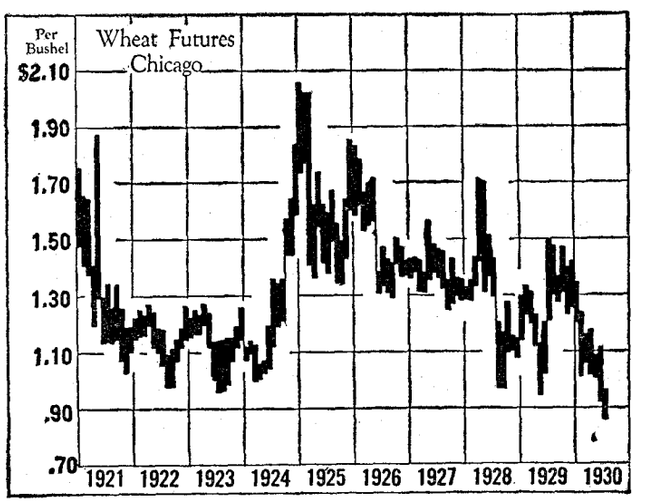
And meanwhile down, down, went the price of wheat until early in July it broke below the 90-cent level at Chicago. And at 86 cents it meant that the Kansas wheat farmer was getting only 60 cents a bushel for his new crop at the local elevator.

Just at this critical time Chairman Legge and Secretary of Agriculture Hyde started on their tour of the winter wheat area of the West. It quickly developed into a running debate with editors and officials, productive of epigrams, personal reflections, and sarcasm. This "Legge show," as the Baltimore *Sun* called it, soon attracted the attention of all the editors. The two gentlemen from Washington, on what the Fargo *Forum* calls their "anabasis," journeyed through Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and the Texas Panhandle. Here is a typical Legge argument from a speech at Hastings, Nebraska:

"To insure the return of wheat production to a sound, successful industry, it is necessary that collective, cooperative action be taken looking to the reduction of the wheat acreage.

"A 25 per cent. reduction will put production on a domestic basis and give you the full benefit of the 42 per cent. tariff. Reduce the acreage of wheat, without regard to what is done with the land thus released for other purposes."

HERE press correspondents see a new kind of "battle of the wheat," with Messrs. Hyde and Legge arguing and pleading and



From the Alexander Hamilton Institute's *Business Conditions Weekly*

Ten Years of Wheat Prices

cajoling with the American farmers to cut their acreage just as Mussolini a few years ago asked Italian farmers to increase acreage. And hot on their trail came Governor Clyde Reed of Kansas. At one meeting in Kansas, he took the platform to debate with them, declaring that "the Farm Board might better use its facilities to extend its market to hungry people than in attempting to curtail production." He insisted that the Farm Board was created for just such an emergency. He argued that it might be possible in some sections to substitute other crops for wheat, but that it ought not to be advocated "in that section which is noted for its cheapness of production, and which raises the best quality of wheat in the world, and can raise nothing else so well."

After one of these Kansas speeches of Mr. Legge came the accusation that he had said:

"The biggest hog will always lie in the trough. Kansas is now in the trough."

QUOTING Mr. Legge thus, the publishers of the Wichita *Beacon* demanded his resignation and his apology for the "insult" to Kansas. Mr. Legge afterward asserted that he really said, "Is Kansas in the trough?" But to the demand of the publishers of the Wichita paper for apology and resignation, he sent this message through a group of interviewing reporters: "You can present my compliments to Max and Louis, and tell them to go to hell."

As Alexander Legge left Kansas with "a prod in each hand and

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a steely glint in his eye," to quote a Kansas City *Star* reporter's words, the newspapers told of Senator Capper's appeal to Mr. Hoover to ask the Farm Board to purchase one hundred million bushels of the new wheat crop. The junior Senator from Kansas, Henry J. Allen, backed up Mr. Capper's request in a talk with the President at his Rapidan camp. A definite refusal was, however, reported from the White House. At about this time newspapers published the Department of Agriculture's estimate that 807,265,000 bushels of wheat will be produced this year as compared with 806,000,000 in 1929.

The controversy over wheat has its political reverberations in Washington, with an unnamed Senator being quoted by the New York *World* as saying, "if conditions do not improve materially, some of us will not be returned in November." Farm relief, says the Philadelphia *Public Ledger*, instead of being settled is "a live issue in the coming election."

MEANWHILE, the American bakers meet in convention in Chicago and ask consumers to help the farmer by eating more bread. And perhaps to help along such campaigns, the Farm Board has adopted a policy of informing the public whenever it thinks retail prices of food are excessive as compared with what the farmer receives.

Glancing for a moment at the editorial pages of some of the farm-belt newspapers we find the Topeka *State Journal* and *Capital* in Kansas agreeing in general that the Legge campaign for acreage reduction is logical and sensible. In Nebraska the Lincoln *State Journal* remarks that "reduction of wheat acreage in the wheat belt is serious, but failure to reduce acreage may become more serious." "Mr. Legge is right," admits the Dallas *News*.

Mr. Legge's campaign for crop reduction in the Southwest meets the approval of papers in the Northwest, where, as the St. Paul *Pioneer Press* notes, "in response to Chairman Legge's advice the spring wheat-growers have this year cut down their acreage." "Here in the spring wheat belt," says the Minneapolis *Journal*, "we are all agreed that the Southwest's stand on wheat-acreage reduction, the Southwest's insistence on its right to nullify the sizable curtailment achieved in the Northwest, is a prime example of unenlightened and futile selfishness."

But there is much impatience with the reduction idea in Kansas and Nebraska. Here is *The News* of Aurora, Nebraska, proclaiming: "There has never been grown a blade of grass that did not have a hungry stomach somewhere that needed it." Mindful of the Iowa farmer who was, once upon a time, "too damn dumb to understand" a Curtis speech on farm relief, the Omaha *World-Herald* says that "thinking minds" will find it very hard to understand a farm-relief policy which means building a great reclamation project at Boulder Dam for increasing farm production, and at the same time calling on farmers in the wheat belt to decrease production. *The World-Herald* thinks that the Legge scheme "will collapse of its own weight."

How to Win a Fair Lady
—Shoemaker in the Chicago "Daily News."

"Gas War" on the Pacific Coast

IN SEATTLE A FILLING STATION was recently giving five gallons of gasoline free to every motorist who changed oil.

In Fresno a dealer retailed gas at two cents a gallon, plus the three-cent State tax.

In San Francisco prices ranged from seven to fourteen cents, including the tax, and in Los Angeles from eight and one-half to twelve and one-half cents.

These prices were results of "the most disastrous 'gas war' in Pacific coast history"—a price-cutting orgy which, according to the Santa Barbara *Times*, carried the menace of industrial panic. "Such cut-throat competition is not 'business' in any justifiable sense," declares the San Diego *Union*, adding: "There is a distinction between business and piracy."

While a truce has been enforced by the refusal of the four major oil companies—Standard of California, Shell, Union, and Richfield—to sell gasoline to price-cutting dealers, the problem of preventing the recurrence of such "wars" remains, local authorities tell us.

"How long peace may last is problematical," remarks the Los Angeles *Express*, which sees "overproduction" as the cause of the trouble, and goes on to say:

"It is a matter in which the Government can and should lend a hand. The independent oil producer is in competition not only with the great corporations that dominate the industry, but with foreign oil. "The Government should give the benefit of a protective tariff.

"It seems hardly fair to ask the small independent American producer to shut off the flow of his well when at the same time a steady flood of oil pours into the country from Mexico and elsewhere, duty free."

"A GASOLINE war commonly starts somewhere with a single individual, a gas-station owner eager to take the business away from one across the street," explains the San Francisco *Chronicle:*

"He begins shading prices on the sly to his regular customers.

"The secret is soon known, the station across the street retaliates, the one down the street cuts in, and the war spreads like a prairie fire. The refiners have to get in for self-protection.

"The result is chaos. The industry is almost torn up by the roots, and every one loses money."

The reason it is so hard to prevent these gasoline-price wars, the same paper adds, "is in the antitrust laws and the uncertainty about what they will permit, and what they will not." To quote further:

"An orderly marketing of the gasoline product is required, not only for the industry, but for the benefit of the public. Yet it is plain there can be no orderly marketing of gasoline without agreements.

"But how to frame an agreement in which some judge will not be able to find an i or a t not dotted or crossed in exact accordance with the shadowy provisions of the anti-trust laws?"

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Our Reds Capture Page One Again

"BEWARE lest Bolshevism spread in America at this moment of financial depression and unemployment." This solemn warning, voiced by Pope Pius XI, is one of several recent developments which serve to focus America's attention once again upon her radicals and their activities.

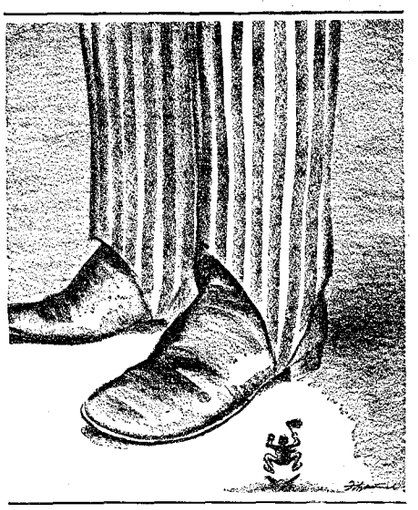
Among these are a statement by Elihu Root, favoring closer supervision of Communists by the Government, and the investigation into Communist activities by a Congressional committee in New York City.

"This is just the ripe time for the spread of Bolshevism," declared the Pontiff, according to the Vatican City correspondent of the Associated Press. "The people of the United States do not realize how far it has spread already, nor completely what its spread means."

Similar warnings also are being broadcast here in America.

"Root Wants Spies to Hunt out Reds as Menace to U. S.," reads the head-line of a New York *World* article, telling us that the international jurist favors the creation of a Federal undercover squad, to keep an eye on Communists. The paper quotes a letter written by Mr. Root to Ralph M. Easley, secretary of the National Civic Federation:

"Now we have reason to believe that an assault is being made by secret means, supported by the resources of a great empire, aimed at the destruction of our system of government, and we find that the Federal Government has no police force available for our protection. Of course, such a force ought to be provided."



The Red Peril

—Fitzpatrick in St. Louis "Post-Dispatch."

"THE American Civil Liberties Union has opposed this idea, arguing that Mr. Root's suggestion is 'based upon obvious ignorance of existing law,'" we read in the New York *Herald Tribune*, which quotes the union officials as saying:

"The present statutes punish all acts or attempted acts against the Government and all conspiracies directed against the Government. The only possible crime that Congress could make now would be holding and expressing revolutionary opinions against the Government, but when you make crimes out of ideas in a man's head, there is no place to stop."

The hand of Moscow is seen in the background, pulling the strings that work the puppets here. From the same paper we learn that Representative Hamilton Fish, Jr., chairman of the Congressional Committee, meeting in New York City to investigate Communist activities in America, was convinced by the preliminary inquiry that "the Communist party in the United States is merely a section of the Third International, with headquarters at Moscow, where all important orders are formulated and issued, and are instantly and implicitly carried out by the Communists in the United States." Then:

"If we find that paid agents of a government which we do not recognize are consistently carrying on efforts to demoralize workers in our industries, and to undermine the rising generation through insidious propaganda in our educational institutions, then appropriate action will be taken to stamp out such propaganda, and drive out or deport all Soviet representatives."

Plunging into its task, a few days ago in New York City, the committee first heard Charles G. Wood, Commissioner of Conciliation of the United States Department of Labor, who declared, according to *The World:*

"So far as taking the country over, that's all poppycock. It is dangerous because the Communists have representatives in a tremendous number of shops in every industry. If the members of these nuclei are able to influence other workers in the shops, it will eventually grow into trouble."

AFTER telling of the four strikes which the Communists have led and lost—the Passaic, New Bedford and Gastonia textile strikes, and the Brooklyn shoe workers' strike—the witness estimated the number of Communists in America at 20,000, of whom 10,000 are in New York City. Communist leaders he pictured as "in it for the money."

Shortly before these incidents, the Associated Press brought word of an article appearing in *Pravda*, in which the Moscow party organ "urged the new leaders of the Communist party in America to prepare the masses for new and more vigorous battles against 'American capitalists, imperialists, and exploiters.'" "The article asserts," we read further, "that stock-market crashes, unemployment, and the agricultural slump have created fertile grounds for revolutionary seeds in the United States." Quoting *Pravda:*

"The possibilities of converting the Communist party in America into a powerful massed outpost of 30,000,000 proletarians and an organized army of exploited and ruined American farmers depend upon the activity and energy of the party itself."

THEN the Moscow paper proceeds to give a somewhat startling account of conditions here:

"Almost one-third of America's army of 30,000,000 proletarians are left without employment. In certain branches of industry wages have been reduced by 40 per cent.

"Millions of farmers are ruined. Under these conditions the organization of a counter-attack by the laboring classes against the capitalists is one of the leading problems of the party.

"The American party now has 15,000 members, only 10 per cent. of whom are organized within 140 factory cells.

"The central problem of the party is to convert revolutionary trade unions into massed organizations, with strong centers located in the factories."

But if that article aroused any fears here, they must have been allayed at once by the reception it received from the section of the Communist party in America calling itself the majority group.

"Too much bluff" was the frank label promptly pinned on *Pravda's* article. The statement came from Jay Lovestone, chairman of the National Council, who, with many followers, "was expelled last year from the Communist party on orders of the Communist International in Moscow," says the New York *Times*. It quotes his statement thus:

"We welcome the fact that this *Pravda* editorial shows signs of taking into recognition the specific position in which our party finds itself as a result of the present rôle of United States imperialism.

"But we must express our regrets that this statement still rings with too much bluff.

"It speaks of our party having 15,000 members. The last convention was informed that the dues-paying members of our party is to-day somewhat more than 6,000.

"It is a fact that recent months have seen intensification of the persecution of the Communists and the militant workers.

"This is an indication of the sharpening of the class struggle. But police persecution is not necessarily in itself a sign of the strength of our party."

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New York's Jump to 7,000,000

"OVER A MILLION MORE PEOPLE to stamp out more of the city's charm and comfort."

Thus mourns the New York *Evening Post* over the "depressing news" that America's metropolis has taken a mighty leap of 1,335,315, or 23 per cent., in ten years, the largest decennial jump in its history, running its total up to almost 7,000,000.

"New York doesn't need a 'Watch Us Grow' movement, this paper declares. "On the contrary, it ought to launch a big 'Stop Our Growth' campaign."

"A day of dwindling," is indeed needed, echoes Heywood Broun, columnist of *The Telegram*, who takes this gloomy view of the city's increase:

"Two people standing on your feet in the subway where only one stood before, higher rents, higher prices, more honking of automobile horns, a greater litter on the beaches and park lawns."

NEW YORK'S population by actual count is 6,955,363, according to the official census returns, but Health Commissioner Wynne predicts that, on the basis of its daily average gain of 357 a day, the city will pass the 7,000,000 mark by August 10.

This phenomenal growth "indicates that by the next census New York may be the largest city in the world," forging ahead of London, says the New York *Herald Tribune*, which also tells us that this is the first census that the city has had four boroughs of 1,000,000 population each. All the boroughs showed increases, except Manhattan, which registered a loss of 18 per cent.

Thus the trend toward converting Manhattan, the original New York, into a "workshop" and the other boroughs into "dormitories" shows a marked gain, observers point out. How the population has shifted in the last ten years is indicated by the following table:

Borough.	*1930*	*1920*	*Change Per Cent.*
Manhattan	1,856,439	2,284,103	−18.6
Brooklyn	2,596,153	2,018,356	+28.6
The Bronx	1,266,734	732,016	+72.9
Queens	1,079,407	469,042	+130.0
Richmond	156,630	116,531	+34.5
Total	6,955,363	5,680,048	+23.8

Those who nurse hopes that America eventually will boast of the world's largest city will be interested in the following, also from *The Herald Tribune:*

"Second only to London for decades, New York may be expected to pass that city by 1940, if the two cities grow during this decade as they did in the last.

"Greater London, which includes registration London and that part surrounding the City and known as 'the outer ring,' had a population of 7,480,201 in 1921, as compared to New York's population of 5,620,048 in 1920. Since those years London has had an annual average increase of 52,000, while New York's annual increase has been 133,531.

"Whereas the 1921 and 1920 figures showed that London had a population greater by 1,860,153 than that of New York, the 1930 population for this city and the 1927 population for London, the latest available, show that New York is but 840,990 behind the capital of the British Empire.

"Should London have had the same relative increase for 1927-30 as for the six preceding years, the population of that city this year would be around 7,900,000."

PURSUING the comparison between the world's two largest cities, the Providence *Journal* reminds us that "the seven and a half million people of London live on a tract 693 square miles in extent, while New York's seven millions are contained within an area of only 299 square miles," and "if we should set up a Greater New York on the London model, we might easily include ten million inhabitants within a territory fairly characterized by that title."

Britain Yields First Mandate

FOR THE FIRST TIME a mandate assigned by the League of Nations is to be given up, as Great Britain signs a treaty with Irak, formerly Mesopotamia.

Thus the ancient and historic land occupying the valleys of the Tigris and Euphrates, the traditional site of the Garden of Eden, where Adam held the first mandate, obtains full independence when it becomes a member of the League in 1932.

The treaty, we read, was signed at Bagdad on July 1 by Sir Francis Humphreys, British High Commissioner, and the Irak ministers. By its terms Britain will withdraw her troops, but guarantees the new State from outside aggression, and retains the right to lease three air bases, thus protecting her line of communications to India. For an explanation of the pact, we borrow from the Manchester (N. H.) *Union:*

"Irak comprises an area a little more than half the size of the State of Texas.

"Aside from the right of conquest during the World War, this territory is of vital importance to Great Britain because of its rich deposits of oil and its strategic position on the land and air routes to India. During the period of the mandate, it has caused the British Government considerable trouble and expense as a result of conflict with neighboring States, but the country itself has made a commendable progress.

"This was the territory given to Feisal, the son of the King of Mekka, as a reward for his assistance in Arabia during the war. Feisal has exhibited a good deal of statesmanship, and has been loyal to his obligations to the British.

"Under his direction, the economic condition of the country has improved steadily, and it is probably due to his influence as much as anything else that Great Britain has been led to approve Irak's request for independence."

What Do You Know About That?

Test your knowledge by the questions below. If you can not answer them, turn to the pages indicated. Each one counts 5.

1. What racial menace is disturbing England? **(p. 14).**
2. How do we help children to the gallows? (p. 18).
3. Is New York's growth a blessing or a curse? **(p. 10).**
4. What is the acid that makes vinegar sour? **(p. 29).**
5. What bird flies under water? (p. 42).
6. Does Moscow admit inciting war in China? **(p. 14).**
7. How can corn-cobs be turned to stone? (p. 33).
8. How can you tell quickly if you are a genius? (p. 33).
9. In what country do the goats climb trees for their dinners? (p. 36).
10. What caused the gas war on the Pacific coast? (p. 8).
11. How do men's and women's fingers differ? (p. 29).
12. Are childless homes the happiest? (p. 20).
13. Is cheating condoned by college students? **(p. 20).**
14. Can plants see without eyes? (p. 41).
15. Where do flesh-and-blood Sirens really exist? (p. 37).
16. Where did Doyle get the idea of *Sherlock Holmes?* (p. 15).
17. What is the new "townless highway"? (p. 24).
18. When and why do bees dance? (p. 40).
19. What did Doyle rate higher than his fiction? (p. 15).
20. What novelist calls Americans "trudging asses"? (p. 17).

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TOPICS IN BRIEF

TARIFF that's higher here is ire over there.—*Weston (Ore.) Leader.*

MAYBE the market has just come down to refuel.—*American Lumberman.*

WE hear of cheap money in New York, but it's never so cheap that it isn't dear.—*Weston Leader.*

POLITICIANS are as good as you are, for the way you vote creates politicians.—*Jackson News.*

IDLE wonder for the day: How does Rear-Admiral Byrd now enjoy paying for all the ice he gets?—*Louisville Times.*

MUSSOLINI has demonstrated that a dictatorship is the ideal form of government for people who will stand for it.—*Muskogee Phœnix.*

THE four brothers who quit the farm to make a record and fortune in endurance-flying may have learned the endurance part waiting for farm relief.—*Indianapolis News.*

THE Kaiser seeks a trial on war guilt. But the 8,000,000 best jurors are in their graves.—*Dallas News.*

NEXT to plus fours on plus twos, nothing could look worse than plus fours on minus twos.—*Louisville Times.*

EINSTEIN'S theory that space is the only important thing was discovered by newspaper business offices many years ago.—*Tulsa World.*

OUR editorial linotypist and proof-reader will be interested to learn that Sir Radhashankar Pattarskhterblaskar is the poet laureate of India.—*Jackson News.*

YALE has had gifts amounting to more than $20,000,000 within a year, but the trouble is that nobody ever dies leaving a good back-field.—*New York Evening Post.*

The Season's Puzzle

Is it a vacationist going or coming back?

—Chase in the New Orleans "Item-Tribune."

THE language of wasps and bees is a kind of dance, says a naturalist. I wish they wouldn't sit it out so often.—*Passing Show.*

THERE are those of us who can remember when the Chinese devoted most of their attention to minding their peace and queues.—*Arkansas Gazette.*

GRANTING that a king can do no wrong, it must be admitted that King Carol has been right a great many times in a very peculiar way.—*Detroit News.*

THE Federal Government will take a full year to study drug-store merchandising in St. Louis. Devoting, we suppose, one day to drugs.—*St. Louis Star.*

IT is getting to be so that a man can not indulge in burglary, murder or high treason without being indicted for making an incorrect income-tax return.—*New York Times.*

UNCLE SAM is about the only fellow in the country right now who can show a surplus. But we all could, if we could fix our income by making a law about it.—*Greenville Piedmont.*

ALTHO it is still early in the season, the truth is again beginning to dawn on us that the worst feature of a vacation is the other fellow's snap-shots you are expected to rave over.—*Philadelphia Inquirer.*

FISH have a highly developed sense of hearing, says the Bureau of Fisheries. We would like to feel that that big trout heard what we called him when he got off our hook last Saturday.—*Southern Lumberman.*

STOCKS of corporations won't go up until stocks of goods come down.—*American Lumberman.*

SUGGESTIONS about reducing the Navy promptly bring all the Rear-Admirals to the front.—*Southern Lumberman.*

SOME people think they have a well-trained conscience when they get it trained not to interrupt.—*Arkansas Gazette.*

AT any rate, it can not be denied that Prohibition is as great a success as the Ten Commandments.—*Louisville Times.*

No financial wizard would look so much like a wizard if all the suckers didn't look so much like suckers.—*San Diego Union.*

"FORMER pugilist now a preacher." Or, as a golfer would express it, an expounder following through.—*Philadelphia Inquirer.*

IT is reported that an American woman recently danced for forty-six hours. The next time she uses a hammer she will probably let her husband hold the nail.—*The Humorist.*

IT is possible for a bald-headed man to be a failure, altho he has come out on top.—*Louisville Times.*

REVISED classic: Hush, little ash dump, don't you cry—you'll be a golf course by and by.—*Virginian-Pilot.*

THE British Commons vote down the proposed Channel tunnel. Must be the makers of seasickness remedies have a lobby.—*Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

STATE of Virginia presented the pole-conquering Admiral with a sword, but it seems to us that an ice-pick would have been more useful.—*New York Evening Journal.*

AS rendered by some of our heart-weary, soul-sick, moaning, groaning and crooning tenors, too many of our melodies seem to be maladies.—*Philadelphia Inquirer.*

RADIOPHONE Signals Circle Globe in Eighth of a Second.—Head-line. Floyd Gibbons must have radiophoned 'em.—*Arkansas Gazette.*

MCCAMPBELL succeeds Campbell as Prohibition Commissioner of New York. Does this mean that the camels are coming?—*St. Louis Star.*

"HEAVEN is not reached in a single bound," said the poet, nor is it avoided by a single bound in these days of speed'ng autos.—*Houston Post-Dispatch.*

THE number of crushing victories in the Chinese civil war up to the moment of going to press is Nanking 17, Northerners 1, Chinese people 0.—*New York Times.*

THE view exprest by our esteemed fellow scribbler, Cal Coolidge, to the effect that liberal purchases will aid trade, seems to us to be well-founded.—*Weston Leader.*

A PARIS news item tells of a banquet where the guests enjoyed a course of stewed grasshoppers. The guests must have been in the same fix as the grasshoppers.—*Southern Lumberman.*

"COME out of the kitchen!" says Mr. Gandhi to the women of India. If he really wants to accomplish that sort of thing, why doesn't he just introduce bridge into the country?—*New York Evening Post.*

"THE time is not far distant when we shall have our food concentrated in tiny round tablets," a scientist declares. We are afraid that this will mean the end of the square meal.—*The Humorist.*

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FOREIGN COMMENT

Franco-Italian War and Peace Maneuvers

DISARMAMENT FIRST is the challenge of Mussolini's Italy to Briand's scheme of a peaceful cooperating "United States of Europe," based upon "security" for France.

Mussolini's government is also first among the European governments to notify Briand that Russia and Turkey ought to be included in his scheme, and that revision of the post-war treaties is necessary to maintain European peace.

These developments heighten European press discussion of the "Franco-Italian discord" manifested in increased military budgets by both governments and the apparent diplomatic "lining up" of "revisionist" against "status quo" nations in Europe, threatening another war. "Topics of the Day" articles in THE LITERARY DIGEST, July 12 and 19, reviewed the features of this crisis for our readers.

The subsequent striking peace maneuver comes from Foreign Minister Briand, who now announces that the atmosphere for "conversations" with Italy has so improved that he has assured Foreign Minister Grandi that France will put off "new" naval building at least until December of this year. Italy, in response, officially joins in the naval holiday. Grandi, it will be recalled, when France and Italy broke away from the London Naval Conference, proposed to withhold the 1930 naval building program, provided that France "does likewise"—a proposal promptly rejected by the French Government and followed by Mussolini's series of warlike speeches and the severance of direct negotiations by France. Now the rainbow follows the storm across the sky.

Marianne: "What are you doing, Aristide?"

Briand: "Making armed cement to cement the union of the States of Europe." —Il '420' (Florence, Italy).

BRIAND'S announcement arouses even more enthusiasm in Italy than in France, according to press reflections. Denouncing as a "base lie" the Berlin rumor that Italy has been secretly sounding out Germany's "neutrality" in the event of a Franco-Italian war, the Italian Foreign Office declares: "France's acceptance of Premier Mussolini's proposal for a naval holiday is the most positive proof of Italy's desire to maintain the most friendly relations with France." The *Messagero* (Rome) hails M. Briand's "initial gesture of good-will" as a "diplomatic step of real value." Other onlookers emphasize the importance of Briand's friendly reference to further negotiations on the Libyan and Tunisian disputes, in which he says difficulties may be "far from insuperable." The prospect of even a six-months' semi-holiday in navy building, while consideration is to be given to Italy's trade and colonial demands in North Africa, brings hope and cheer to Italian publicists.

In France, Briand gets a shower of brickbats among the bouquets. Pertinax, in *L'Echo de Paris*, lines up with the French Minister of Marine in minimizing the "reality" of the proffered "holiday," and proceeds to accuse Briand of giving a false impression:

"Most naval units contemplated by the program for the current financial year have already been commenced. In any case, the second part should not be started before the end of 1930.

"In truth, nothing has been changed in our plans.

"But why is M. Briand so anxious to give the impression that we have agreed in a certain measure to the proposition of a naval holiday put forward by Italy?

"The reply comes: Because of the European federation undertaking. It is a matter of keeping up appearances."

M. HENRI BERENGER, formerly French Ambassador to the United States, gives European circulation to an article headed, "First of All, Let Us Have Security," stressing demand for a policy of "firmness" toward both Italy and Germany.

On the other hand, *Le Temps* sees Briand representing France's spirit of conciliation, and pertinently asks, "How can France give fuller proof of her good-will and her desire to find a solution?"

Briand declared before the Foreign Committee of the Chamber of Deputies that in his opinion another war in Europe is "impossible and inadmissible" when he announced the policy of suspending new naval construction. He laid failure of negotiations so far regarding African questions to Italy's unwillingness to meet concessions half-way. He referred to the deference given to Italy on naval policy in quitting the London conference. He concludes:

"I am anxious to show by the attitude of France that the atmosphere can not be troubled.

"When France preserves the greatest calm, I think that, far from enfeebling herself, she gives proof both of her force and her will for peace.

"The essential thing is to combine our external policy with security, and to count, above all, on ourselves for defense. But while I have never neglected the national defense, I am trying to prove to the world the good-will of France, and I am happy to say to-day that our desire for peace is recognized."

ONLY a few days previously Mussolini had executed a "face-about" maneuver in an authorized interview to the London *Observer*, proclaiming his desire for "peace above all things." This attracted wide attention in the European press. To quote him:

"For the internal progress vital to the welfare of the nation, peace is absolutely essential, altho the geographical position of Italy makes it necessary that Italians should be prepared to defend their country against such potential enemies as exist to east and west.

"But Italy wishes to be on the best terms with her neighbors.

"Even with the Austrians, who were among our bitterest enemies, we are now on the most friendly terms. Our enmity has been obliterated, and our differences no longer exist.

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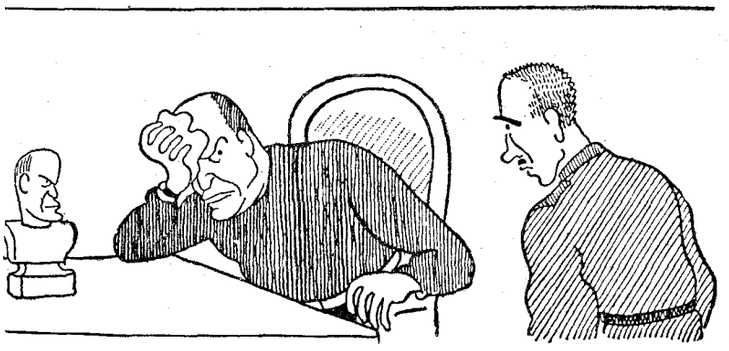
"There has been much talk in many countries of the aggressive designs of Italy and of her imperialistic aims for the future. Those who give expression to such ideas merely show how little they appreciate Italy's vital needs and the policy which is essential that I should follow.

"The prestige of Italy and her position in the world have improved very considerably in recent years, but I hope to see a further improvement in this respect. Yet, to accomplish our object, we must have peace.

"Those who oppose Fascism do so because the means which I employ to achieve my purpose are at variance with their liberal or socialistic creeds. They condemn my methods, but they shut their eyes to the results achieved in the last eight years.

"My policy is not aggressive, and you have my authority to tell the people in England and elsewhere that I want peace above all things."

AMONG British papers the London *Times* early welcomed more reassuring news of relations between France and Italy, deplored the apparent "race between negotiations and armament," and considered it "impossible to believe that the ingenuity of Franco-Italian diplomacy would fail to find a settlement of points of difference if it were really informed by good-will." Of the profounder causes of difference, we read:



"Duce, what is the cause of your torment?"
"—Fear of not making fear!"
—"Cyrano" (Paris).

"The rise of Italy since the war, her recent rather strident insistence upon the relatively enhanced importance of her position among the Great Powers, and the reluctance of France, conveyed in a hundred subtleties of diurnal diplomacy, to recognize it; the rivalry of the two Powers for influence in the Balkans; a sense of grievance in Italy because, despite the increase of her Continental territory after the war, she was not regarded as a Colonial Power, and has not been entrusted with a single Mandate, tho France and even Belgium became mandatory Powers; the demographical problem of excess of population in Italy and underpopulation in France, causing a steady influx of Italian workmen into the Midi, where, in accordance with Fascist principles, they refuse to accept French citizenship; and, finally, the contrast between the Fascist nature of the one State and the democratic institutions of the other—all these points of contrast constitute a clash of principles and a cumulative antagonism which for the moment quite obliterate the common services to civilization which the two nations have rendered in war and in peace."

ALSO discussing what lies beneath Franco-Italian antagonism, the London *Spectator* observes:

"There is, on the one hand, the unceasing struggle for diplomatic power and prestige to which Signor Grandi's recent visits to Warsaw, to Vienna and other European capitals have been partly due.

"It is freely admitted by the official spokesmen that Italian relations with Jugo-Slavia are more satisfactory than they have been for years.

"Opposed to Italian policy is the pertinacious but somewhat simple-minded desire of France to direct European development through French diplomatic channels, which is the obvious interpretation of the plan for the Federal Union of Europe. 'Development' is perhaps hardly the word, since the French view of 'security' is essentially static, it postulates an organization of 'peace'—through the League, if possible, but failing that by the time-*dis*honored system of military alliances—whose first function would be to preserve the hard-and-fast settlement imposed (mainly by French policy) at the Peace Conference."

"An article by M. Jean Hennessy in the *Quotidien* gave the game away completely. He argued that 'the French must be conscious that their own security is complete'—in other words, that they are sufficiently armed."

The "Cadaverous" Monroe Doctrine

"NO MORE MONROE DOCTRINE," protests *El Mercurio* of Santiago, capital of Chile, in a leading editorial, interrupting the current harmony chorus.

If men of state at Washington, this important paper tells us, "sincerely wish to win the sympathies of Latin America for their country, and if they knew the sentiment of these peoples with whom they aspire to form the combination called Pan-America, they would abstain in the future from mentioning the Monroe Doctrine."

Not because there exists on this side of the world, "at least in Chile, special enmity against this much-handled doctrine," says *El Mercurio*, but "because we consider it as old-fashioned, worn out, without sense whatsoever in our time, and we view it as one of those things which are sent to be stowed away in the museum of ideas which existed and have ceased."

This sentiment is not new, we are reminded. For, back in 1823, "when Diego Portales, then an active tradesman without interest of any kind in politics, read in the periodicals which arrived in Lima, where he happened to be on business, President Monroe's famous Message, he wrote to his partner, Señor Cea, a letter very often reproduced, in which he recommended that the doctrine be viewed with alarm, and he foresaw the future interpretations."

Further we read:

"Later it has been interpreted.

"From what Monroe wished to say with the purpose of ending all intention of European colonization or revindication in America, his successors have continued to make an idealistic basis for the intervention of the United States in the affairs of the other States of America.

"We are not discussing intervention. The Pan-American Conference at Havana was on the point of failing on account of the impossibility of arriving at an agreement regarding this matter. As it is known, the Congress of Jurists of Rio de Janeiro had approved a Code of International Rights in which intervention was absolutely condemned. Conciliatory formulas were searched and they were not found.

"In reality, intervention has restricted its geographical radius to the so-called countries of the Caribbean Sea. At our end of the continent we have not known it, nor have we feared nor do we fear that it should be produced. We do not understand it, and for this same reason it seems to us a kind of myth, with regard to us, altho we see it reproduced now and again in the lands nearest the United States."

RECENT statements by our Ex-Secretary of State Kellogg, *El Mercurio* considers those of a "weighty, serene, and just spirit," for "he wishes to return the Monroe Doctrine to its primitive sense, he wishes it to refer only to the relations of America with Europe, and not to those of the American countries among themselves."

But—

"Neither does this rejuvenescence of the cadaverous doctrine seem necessary nor convenient.

"If before the World War any one could have imagined the possibility of a European purpose toward taking possession of

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American territory or of establishing supremacies of any kind in this continent, after that vast disaster it is simply ridiculous to think of such a thing.

"There is no need whatsoever of the Monroe Doctrine, nor do the United States have any object in working to find interpretations or explanations for it. If they wish to maintain the practise of the interventions, neither is a doctrine needed, because in this, acts are stronger than words. If they wish harmony, and even sympathies, they had better stow away their 1823 doctrine as a historical souvenir."

THIS critical Chilean attitude voiced by *El Mercurio* concludes with an exhortation that reaches its climax in saying, "Let us not forget that with this renowned phrase: 'America for the Americans,' there has never been any good done to the nations of the continent, but, on the other hand, there has been sown among them all the mistrusts, the grudges which were foreseen by Portales."

Half-Caste Menace in England

TO STOP THE INTERMARRIAGE of white women with men of other races "something must be done," urges the Liverpool Association for the Welfare of Half-Caste Children.

And the British press finds similar trouble at other harbor ports, increasing the menace.

For example, at Cardiff, a mixed colored population of 1,300 is made up of West Africans, Somalis, Arabs, and Indians; Manchester has 200 colored; South Shields has an Arab problem, and London a Chinese problem.

But Liverpool's 400 Anglo-negroid families and 1,350 colored children, whose mothers are white, and fathers chiefly West African seamen, raise chief discussion and demand for a comprehensive Government Inquiry.

Investigators find that "mentally the Anglo-Chinese child is said to be equal if not superior to the white." School authorities state that the Negro half-caste child shows early brightness, but retrogrades later—probably rating slightly inferior to the whites. As the Manchester *Guardian* observes:

"There are, however, other factors which make him inferior.

"His home life is deplorable, for since a Negro seaman's earnings are not sufficient to keep his family above the poverty-line, it often happens that while he is away on a voyage his wife is forced to become a prostitute. And it is virtually impossible for a half-caste to find employment.

"So the girls of the family take to the streets and the boys to petty vice or mere idleness."

MOST of the West African seamen come from Liberia, Nigeria, and the Gold Coast on ships in the trade, with passports and money to spend on arrival; they sing, dance, and dress well, and so attract impressionable young white women, say correspondents of the London *Times* and other British papers. These wives, however, having once mixed with colored men, hopelessly unable to break away on account of community ostracism, with their half-caste children, burden charity and government relief.

Besides government inquiry, the press call for special social workers at the ports, and favor at least forcing colored seamen to "sign on" in Africa, so that they shall not have money to spend until they get back home.

Up, Soviet Supporters!
—"Pravda" (Moscow).

Bolshevists Claim South China

SOUTH CHINA REBELS, who are becoming a more and more serious threat to the Nanking Government of Chiang Kai-shek, are not merely rebels, but Communists. Their troops are "a Red Army" obeying the orders of the Chinese Communist party and of the Third International of Moscow.

The successes of the Army are a proof of the fact that "the proletarian revolution is bound to win in China."

Such are the statements to be found in a long article on "Soviets in China," printed in *Pravda*, the official organ of the Central Committee of the Russian Communist party in Moscow.

Three years ago, *Pravda* tells us, the Communist uprisings were crusht in Canton by Chiang Kai-shek "with utmost cruelty." But the Communist movement did not die; it spread throughout the South of the country in the form of peasant uprisings directed by "Red partizan detachments." Further we read:

"The bourgeois and democratic Chinese revolution gradually is transforming itself into the Socialist revolution.

"The war in the South is assuming wider and wider proportions, and millions of peasants are being drawn into it, thus contributing to the growth of the revolutionary movement in the country.

"At the present all Southern China is in the throes of the war. Out of 773 districts of the ten Southern provinces, war rages in 162 districts. And the thirteen corps of the Red Army acting there have complete control over 127 districts."

CONCERNING the size of the Red Army and Soviet penetration, this paper says:

"The Chinese Red Army numbers about 62,000 fighters, not counting large numbers of volunteer detachments, the Red Guards (composed of workmen stationed in various cities), as well as various peasant organizations. Moreover, many millions of Chinese peasants sympathize with the Red Army and lend their support to it; it is exactly in this that the main source of its strength lies.

"Thus, directed by the Third International, the Chinese Red Army gradually transforms itself into an imposing army of the Chinese peasants fighting for the land and for the political control of the country."

Pravda also informs us that the whole Red movement in China proceeds strictly along Russian standards and patterns:

"In most of the regions occupied by the Red Army, a Soviet Government is set up. Such Soviets exist in eighteen regions.

"As soon as they are set up, they confiscate lands from their former wealthy owners and hand it over to the peasants. Other property owned by landlords, bankers, business men, etc., also is confiscated. Finally, revolutionary tribunals for the judgment of all exploiters and counter-revolutionaries are organized.

"Thus, the Chinese revolution definitely acquires the character of a Soviet revolution."

MOREOVER, *Pravda* reports that the first all-regional "Chinese Soviet Congress," will work to overthrow the Nanking Government and to place all the power over the country in the hands of Soviets elected by peasants, workmen, and soldiers. So, according to *Pravda*, this Congress of Chinese laboring masses under Communist party leadership "will inspire by its example all the enslaved colonial nations for new revolutionary battles against their enslavers."

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The Creator of "Sherlock Holmes"

SHERLOCK HOLMES IS IMMORTAL.

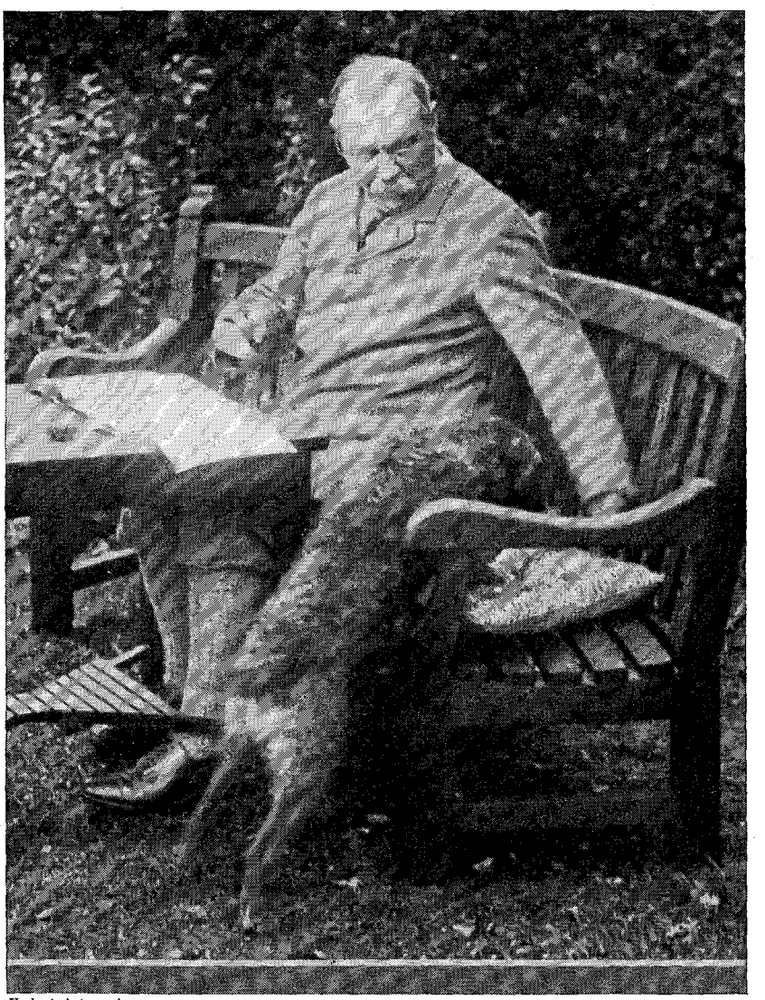
But his creator, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, is said to have wished that he be remembered for his works on spiritism.

"It was probably a vain wish," thinks the New York *Evening Post*.

He may have thought he "called spirits from the vasty deep"; but the world admits that when he called the great detective from his inner consciousness, there came a spirit as real as any wearing a corporeal shape.

He even deceived many into thinking that here was one who had once lived on the earth. The Boston *Transcript* puts Doyle, in this respect, into exalted company:

"Shakespeare had done that with *Hamlet*, Cervantes with *Don Quixote*, Defoe with *Robinson Crusoe*, Dickens with *David Copperfield*, but in our own time few if any others had been so successful. And the strange part of it is that not a single work from Conan Doyle's pen is a great story, as are the stories of those others. As literature they seem destined to pass into limbo. But *Sherlock Holmes* himself seems destined to live forever, as if he were once flesh and blood, and not a creature of the imagination of a single man."



Herbert photograph

Conan Doyle at His Home in the New Forest

Where he was beginning a new Holmes series.

A FEW years ago Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wrote "Memories and Adventures" (Little, Brown & Company), and in telling the story of his life he shows us how, to some extent, *Sherlock* was a real person, his prototype being a school-teacher:

"Gaboriau had rather attracted me by the neat dovetailing of his plots, and Poe's masterful detective, *M. Dupin*, had from boyhood been one of my heroes.

"But could I bring an addition of my own?"

"I thought of my old teacher, Joe Bell, of his eagle face, of his curious ways, of his eerie trick of spotting details. If he were a detective, he would surely reduce this fascinating but unorganized business to something nearer to an exact science.

"I would try if I could get this effect.

"It was surely possible in real life, so why should I not make it plausible in fiction? It is all very well to say that a man is clever, but the reader wants to see examples of it—such examples as Bell gave us every day in the wards. The idea amused me. What should I call the fellow? I still possess the leaf of a notebook with various alternative names.

"One rebelled against the elementary art which gives some inkling of character in the name, and creates *Mr. Sharps*, or *Mr. Ferrets*. First it was *Sherringford Holmes;* then it was *Sherlock Holmes*. He could not tell his own exploits, so he must have a commonplace comrade as a foil—an educated man of action who could both join in the exploits and narrate them. And so I had my puppets and wrote my 'Study in Scarlet.'"

SIR ARTHUR adds a comment that explains, perhaps, why he killed off *Sherlock Holmes*, and was forced by public sentiment to resuscitate him:

"I do not wish to be ungrateful to *Holmes*, who has been a good friend to me in many ways.

"If I have sometimes been inclined to weary of him, it is because his character admits of no light or shade. He is a calculating-machine, and anything you add to that simply weakens the effect.

"Thus the variety of the stories must depend upon the romance and compact handling of the plots. I would say a word for *Watson* also, who in the course of seven volumes never shows one gleam of humor or makes one single joke. To make a real character one must sacrifice everything to consistency, and remember Goldsmith's criticism of Johnson that 'he would make the little fishes talk like whales.'

"I do not think that I ever realized what a living actual personality *Holmes* has become to the more guileless readers, until I heard of the very pleasing story of the char-à-bancs of French schoolboys who, when asked what they wanted to see first in London, replied unanimously that they wanted to see *Mr. Holmes's* lodgings, in Baker Street. Many have asked me which house it is, but that is a point which, for excellent reasons, I will not decide."

HARRY HANSEN of the New York *World* confesses to the same interest as possest the French schoolboys in the locale of *Holmes's* life:

"*Sherlock Holmes* lived on Baker Street, you will recall, hard by what is now Waterloo Station of the Underground, in that district of Georgian houses, with colorless brick fronts, little

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windows, iron hand-rails at the doors, and chimney-pots. And Baker Street is not very far from Piccadilly, the Strand, Trafalgar Square, and Whitehall, where the trade and politics of the seven seas were somehow unraveled and routed throughout the later nineteenth century.

"I myself have stood in Baker Street and surveyed a supposititious upper story, wondering whether *Sherlock Holmes* was standing beside the dark hangings of the windows, looking up and down for a hansom-cab with a suspicious driver. I have wondered just how *Moriarity* went about it to 'make the place safe,' as he called it, and pictured the streets bare of traffic and pedestrians, pervaded with a feeling of imminent danger.

"Stepney I have never seen, but every 'gas-house' that I viewed from the windows of the London and Chatham filled me with a queer dread. All the time I knew that this was fiction, and that I was merely indulging in an imaginative intoxication.

His Greatest Adventure

—Johnstone in "The World" (New York).

"But that, particularly, was Conan Doyle's long suit—the ability to make things plausible and real. And he did so by being superficial to a degree, giving the reader's mind a chance to catch up with him and elaborate the pattern.

"Great fiction is that which betrays a great mind behind it—of such is Dostoyefsky, Tolstoy. But popular fiction gives the reader a chance, and the mind that writes it best is the mind only a step above the average.

"Had Conan Doyle been a thoroughgoing scientist, he would never have created *Sherlock Holmes;* had he been a seer, he would never have retained his interest in the vain traffics of this generation."

CONAN DOYLE died on July 7, and the newspapers devote unusual space to him and his work, but always *Sherlock Holmes* seems to be present. *The World* sums him up:

"The death of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle leaves a gap in the ranks of British men of letters. He ranged in many fields. He was a war historian. In such studies as 'The White Company' and 'Micah Clarke' he showed a mastery of the well-documented historical novel. In 'The Lost World' and 'The Valley of Fear' he trenched upon an early field of H. G. Wells's, that of scientific extravaganza. He showed the reformer's social instinct in 'The Case of Oscar Slater,' an English parallel of the Mooney case, here.

"But incomparably his greatest work was that which Doyle himself valued least."

Some hold it curious, remarks Heywood Broun in The New York *Telegram*, "that the creator of the agnostic *Holmes* should himself turn ardent spiritualist." But—

"In this I see no lack of logic. Indeed, it was an inevitable development. Any one who had given over his thoughts to the solution of mysteries must necessarily have tackled, sooner or later, the major problem. And Conan Doyle undertook to explore territory where even *Holmes* was of no use to him. This was not a case to be solved by a rare tobacco ash, a curious Indian poison, or any sort of footsteps."

The Wolff in Our Sheepfold

IF DIGEST READERS are still suffering from the shock of learning that Dr. Max Wolff could find no "American" literature here, they may find some healing balm in the Minneapolis *Journal.*

We quoted the doctor's awful verdict in our issue of June 28, and we quote the rejoinder in the hope that it will meet his eye. *The Journal* begins by stating his views:

"He affirms that 'there is now in existence no contemporary American literature whatever'! He adds that the soul of what is called American literature is not American to-day. As proof of this he cites the writings of Upton Sinclair, Sinclair Lewis, Theodore Dreiser, Joseph Hergesheimer, and other contemporaries. These writers, says the German critic, 'are not even remotely American.' They can not get a trace of 'the American soul' into their work. He adds:

"'Whoever reads Dostoyefsky can get the Russian soul through his works. This can not be said of the American writers about whom one reads in any study of contemporary American literature. This is not because the American authors lag behind the Russians in poetical power, but because they remain to the last merely Europeans transplanted to America. The American soul remains a riddle to them.

"'In all American literature of to-day, the only thing American is the background, the appurtenance—at most, the raw material.'

" Dr. Wolff agrees that Mark Twain's humor is American and so, too, is Bret Harte's. Walt Whitman also shows an emancipation from old-world trammels, but as for the writers of to-day, they are hopelessly European in their methods and views."

NOW for *The Journal's* innings. The truly great writers, it argues, are not of this or that land, but are universal in their genius:

"But what is 'American' and what is 'European'? Presumably Bret Harte or Mark Twain, or even Whitman, might have written the same things in Canada or in Australia or even in England, just as Kipling, living in England, could write of India. The difference in 'soul' between the European and American is much like the difference in languages or in dialects. One can hardly call Shakespeare 'European' or even 'English,' if those words are used in the sense of confining him. He is better described by a line in his own sonnets, as—

the prophetic soul
Of the wide world dreaming on things to come.

"The real question about a writer to-day is not, 'Is he American or European in his point of view, but is he universal?' Thanks to rapid transportation and communication, to aircraft, ocean liners, cables, telegraphs, telephones and radios, the two continents are pretty well together, and the question has become one of world values rather than of continental values. The great writer of to-morrow, if not of to-day, will strive not so much to express the American or the European soul, as he will to express the universal soul. He will be 'the prophetic soul of the wide world,' dreaming on things that are, and that are to come.

"Such writers, to be sure, we have not in America to-day, nor are they to be found in England, France, Germany, nor the Soviet Republics. There has been but one Shakespeare—but there is no reason why another should not appear, whether in Europe or America. But it is certain that, wherever he appears, he will not be American nor European, but 'of the wide world.'

"Meantime, there are the lesser lights, and it must be confessed with the German critic that our own lights do not throw a very brilliant glare over the American scene."

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The Dark Blue Dreiser

MR. DREISER, AUTHOR OF A FAMOUS BOOK that an English critic has amusingly called in itself "an American tragedy," now finds all America a tragedy.

"Since modern business and financial developments have made American citizens into nothing but 'trudging asses,' there is no great contemporary American literature."

Thus in an interview recorded by James Flexner in the New York *Herald Tribune* he pays his compliments to his fellow citizens and his confrères in the literary world.

After visiting Russia he has made a tour, undertaken "to revive my understanding of America," so he says. And he is "more convinced than ever that the country is headed for great social changes that will frustrate the life of the ordinary individual unless they can be checked by a really important stand on the part of the intellectuals." This is a conclusion reached by the new school of Humanists, tho Mr. Dreiser has no dealings with that group.

Here are some of the Dreiser pronouncements—remembering, however, that Mr. Dreiser bet $10 that the interviewer could not get into his paper the things he proposed to say.

"The constitutional government of America is abdicated. In every State in the Union there is no such thing as representative government. America is controlled by trusts that function as government. They have the power to tax, which is the power to destroy.

"The mental capacity of our school-teachers is practically nullified by business authorities dictating what they may teach. They must denounce Bolshevism, and keep their mouths shut on Darwinism. The great educational thing, they are told, is the flag, and it is the duty of every citizen to be 100 per cent. American—in other words, a damn fool.

"What do the books concern themselves with nowadays? Why, with a little love affair, perhaps, or people's marital experiences for twenty years, or the adventures of some dub in the detective world, or how terrible the world looks to some dub who has never looked at it at all.

"Life is life. It may be a lolling, fat, disgusting thing, but in the hand of a master it would become a very sardonic thing. The life of America to-day, fast verging as it is on social tragedy, should lend itself to satire and irony. Or, perhaps, we might have a literature of despair like that of Dostoyefsky. That might be a good thing. Conditions here are in many ways similar to those in Russia before the revolution.

"Nothing will be done until 50 or 60 per cent. of the people of the United States feel the pinch that follows the right of the corporations to tax them to death. The only thing that will stir the people is misery. They are not miserable enough yet, but they soon will be. Men could organize this land so it could support three or four times its population without any misery.

"I have never seen a land more beautiful. It is self-sufficient, it could close its borders and live without any contact with the outside world. It could live beautifully."

WE have not ventured to reprint the statements not enclosed in quotation marks lest we add some weight to the decision on the bet. But some things more may be derived from the *Herald Tribune's* editorial rejoinder:

"Americans, says Theodore Dreiser, have become mere 'trudging asses.' He has just made a tour of America and he knows.

"Business authorities dictate what the schools may teach. The trusts have ruined the farmers and have ruined literature. 'Because they can not hope to succeed in small private enterprises, American citizens have lost their initiative and their power to think.' So they read and write nonsense, and will continue to do so until they suffer more. 'The only thing that will stir the people is misery. . . . They are not miserable enough yet.' . . .

"Thus the author of 'Sister Carrie' and 'An American Tragedy,' sitting in his duplex apartment close to Carnegie Hall with his blooded wolfhound lying at his feet.

"We are not sure just what it all goes to show, unless it be that novelists should never be interviewed, or that Mr. Dreiser's digestion is better on his country estate in Mount Kisco than in the City of New York, or that a man may be a great novelist and still be something of a fool.

"Mr. Dreiser is indisputably, whether judged by the verdict of those critics who, hirelings of the capitalistic press, write for the American public, or by that of the beautiful, free Europeans, or even by the verdict of coarse, materialist sales, one of the outstanding American novelists.

"He has an uncanny power to probe the mysteries and describe the weary inevitabilities of the human soul. He has a profound and sympathetic understanding of the somber banalities that lie beneath the surface of human lives; he paints them ruthlessly and realistically, yet with a curious affection quite alien to the sterile mood of some of his more rebel-minded imitators.

"Yet this same man, with a chance to make deductions and to utter something akin to a philosophy, falls into absurdities.

"'They are not miserable enough yet!' What pathetic nonsense! Would Dreiser prescribe misery for himself and his friends? If he believes that the success of his own novels corrupts his artist's soul, why does he keep his wolfhound and his duplex apartment? It is true enough that the machine age—not in America alone, but in the whole world—has stamped its imprint upon the minds of men and has made them feel like midgets in the immediate and overwhelming presence of a world which to their ancestors was remote and unimportant; but the answer is not more poverty.

"Mr. Dreiser may write another great novel as the fruit of his tour of America; but he will do better as a novelist than as a sociologist.

"His own life belies his dour outlook; his own hard-earned success is indication of a growing change in America."

Made "Sherlock Holmes" Visible

William Gillette, who played the role hundreds of times.

The Cover

BRILLIANT colors, cool water, girls in filmy clothes—such are the inspiration of Edouard Cucuel, who spends his summers painting in Bavaria. This the cover reveals. His residence is at Limpsfield, in Surrey, between London and the south coast of England. The artist was in America during the winter, painting portrait commissions for many prominent Americans. He is a member of the Salon Nationale des Beaux Arts, Paris. The Birkenhead-Liverpool Museum of Arts, England, and the Detroit Museum of Fine Arts have acquired paintings by him.

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Saving the Cost of Gallows and Prisons

CHILDREN WERE HANGED FOR THEFT not many generations ago.

The gallows was the only means of reform for child and adult alike.

There was no second chance for the first offender.

And conditions appear to be not much better in this enlightened age, except that the road to the gibbet is a little longer.

For the way to the rope's end is made easier by crowding children in the same jails with felons, tho we have a better method at hand. The first offender goes to prison with the case-hardened criminal, tho, given another chance, he might be reformed and be remade into a useful citizen. Punishment is made to fit the crime, tho the modern teaching is that it should be made to fit the man.

In fact, not a single State is doing enough preventive work in the field of preventive juvenile delinquency, according to the thirty judges, probation officers, and psychiatrists who present their views of the present crime situation in the recently published 1929 Year Book of the National Probation Association.

Yet preventive measures, with special emphasis on probation, not only save the victim, if that were not enough; but prevent a loss to the country of millions of dollars annually.

What is the situation?

Says Mrs. Anna L. Saylor, Director of the Department of Social Welfare for California:

"The lack of segregation of prisoners, the young from the old; first offenders from hardened criminals; the diseased from the well; the convicted from those awaiting trial—and the horrible practise of confining the insane, and even children, with the above-named classes is almost beyond belief in this enlightened age.

"In addition to these, filthy and unsanitary conditions, overcrowding, enforced idleness, unwholesome food, and, far too often, politically minded sheriffs, jailers, and guards add greatly to the dangers of the situation.

"The sooner we as a people take into account the fact that all systems of criminal procedure or justice, from the highest courts in the nation to the lowest courts in the cities, are dealing with exactly the same kind of human material and problems, the sooner will we accept uniform standards of procedure. By socializing and humanizing such procedure, we will make the administration of justice more efficient from the monetary point of view, and more effective from the standpoint of society."

As a matter of public economy, says Justin Miller, we could not put all the criminals in jail, anyway. Professor Miller, who was formerly Dean of the School of Law of the University of Southern California, and is now in charge of the Law Department of Duke University, sums up his indictment of drastic laws in these words:

"If we were to increase the average punishment of our major offenses by one year, it would necessitate, in practically every State, the building of a new institution as large as the largest penitentiary in that State, and for each additional year an additional institution.

"Any one who sponsors a program of this kind as a solution to this problem is advocating a financial program which calls for the investment of sufficient funds to build an institution as large as the largest one in the State each year that we increase the average."

LET us see, then, what probation can do.

Probation was started in Massachusetts fifty-one years ago. No other State adopted it until 1894, when Maryland began its use, followed by Vermont, Rhode Island, New Jersey, and New York, in the period between 1898 and 1901. Since 1910 its growth has been constant and rapid. To-day there are nearly 4,000 full-time employed probation officers at work in the courts of the country. And, says Herbert G. Cochran, judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court in Norfolk, Virginia:

"In Massachusetts, 25 per cent. of all persons convicted of criminal offenses are to-day being placed on probation.

"For years, in that State, more than 80 per cent. of all persons placed on probation have made good, and have had no further criminal record.

"Massachusetts has not built an additional prison-cell in twenty-five years, and has a much smaller prison population to-day than it had twenty-five years ago. This has saved the public the expense of caring for thousands of prisoners.

"We find that $2,000,000 was paid last year by persons on probation, of which nearly $600,000 was for fines and restitution, and about $1,400,000 for support of dependents.

"Massachusetts has found probation, properly applied and carefully administered, to be one of society's surest defenses and protections against criminal activities, and has the lowest crime rate of any State in this country.

"New York State has found that 78 per cent. of its 250,000 adult offenders who have been placed on probation since 1907 have made good, and have paid in fines, restitution and support of dependents, $23,000,000. Between 15,000 and 20,000 adults and more than 7,000 juveniles are placed on probation yearly in this State.

"More than 80,000 persons are annually placed on probation in England, with most satisfactory results."

Minster

By Clinton Scollard

THE wood my church is, and I enter there
When I would fain uplift my heart in prayer,
While exultation fills me as the trees
Repeat their tuneful leafy litanies.

—*The Sun, New York.*

BETWEEN 50 and 60 per cent. of all persons in jails are repeaters, that is, have been in jail, some of them a dozen times, some more than a hundred times, says Judge Cochran. On the other hand, between 75 and 85 per cent. of persons placed on probation have made good and been restored to useful citizenship. Again:

"Probation is much less costly than imprisonment.

"It costs $15 to $18 a year per person to supervise a person on probation. It costs $350 to $500 a year to keep a person in prison a year—besides the loss to the community and to his family of what would have been earned if released on probation and required to work, instead of being kept in jail at public expense.

"Again the contrast is striking—and all in favor of probation.

"Of course, there are persons whom it will not do to release on probation—such as those who make a business of crime, the gangster, the confirmed, deliberate, purposeful criminal, and those who are dangerous because of mental irresponsibility and social abnormality. But the fact remains that by herding together in our prisons vicious, hardened criminals with those who need help and guidance and a chance to make good, and with first offenders, we have for years been breeding and educating criminals instead of reforming and curing them.

"It is only too true that our jails are veritable nurseries and schools of crime."

JUDGE COCHRAN quotes Dr. Charles Platt, a former president of the National Probation Association, as saying:

"The probation idea is now accepted by all thinking people.

"Prison, it is now recognized, is but a last resort, and an acknowledgment of failure. Its influence is too harmful, too antisocial, to justify the subjecting of any one to it thoughtlessly. It is beginning to be recognized that we must raise our standards of admission to the prison, that we should demand of each applicant some real aptitude for crime."

Which doesn't mean, of course, says Judge Cochran, that some of our offenders ought not to be removed from society and

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segregated. "They should be, and many of them, including some who under our present system are not dealt with in this manner."

HERE, in illustration, is a probation case culled from about 2,000 by C. E. Wilson, chief probation officer of Sacramento, California. The probationer, thirty-five years old, was engaged in building and the buying and selling of houses. He became "color-blind," which, in the parlance of the street, means that he could not tell his money from that of his employers. We read:

"When the defendant was released he started as a carpenter. He had few friends. His wife and children were in Chicago. He raised money by his own labor to bring them back. He decided to remain in the city where he had been for the past few years.

"He established a humble home, but he could not get ahead. His expenses were too great. He came to me and said he wished to change his occupation and go into real estate. I said it was a lawful occupation, and that it was all right for him to do so. He replied, however, that the district attorney's office had threatened to send him to the penitentiary.

"I saw the district attorney, and thrashed the matter out. Then I said to my probationer, 'If you wish to go into real estate, you are at liberty to do so.'

"He went back and prospered. He lived up to the probation orders, which were strict. He secured a position with a real-estate firm. Then his troubles commenced with his co-workers. The firm had a large force of men, who would have nothing to do with him. They complained to the manager in charge that they did not wish to work with an ex-convict.

"I straightened that out. The manager told them, 'You do not have to work if you do not like it—quit. The man is hired to do business, and if he can not, he goes. I have every confidence that he is going to make good.'

"He made good. It wasn't long before he was the head of the department, and the best salesman the firm had.

"He called upon me weekly for advice, and we talked things over. Then he decided to go into business for himself. Through his ability and hard work he had accumulated considerable money.

"During the few years that he was on probation he became a respected citizen. When released from probation he continued along the same lines. He was elected to a very responsible position on a certain board in his town; he educated his family, sending them through the university, and purchased a beautiful home—all in a period of ten years.

"I have other probationers who have done nearly as well, but not quite. This man was exceptional. He had intelligence and business ability. He had learned through bitter experience the value of honesty.

"A great many cases are brought into court on 'failure to provide.' Nearly every one pleads guilty. The question then arises as to what shall be done with the wife and children. The defendant does not like to work or he has lost his job, or there are family difficulties. Many of them are divorced. Some have one child; some have ten. You can't turn them loose without help; you have to come to their assistance.

"The majority of these cases, if placed on probation, make good. We have to see that they get food and jobs. In our dealings with them we try to use plain common sense. The average citizen who has violated the law, unless he is a repeater and doesn't care about his citizenship, will make good if he has clothes, a job and some food and a chance to regain his self-respect."

Giving Braille's Gift to the Blind

ONE DAY IN 1812 little three-year-old Louis Braille, a French boy, entered his father's harness-shop to play. He picked up a sharp tool.

It was too big for him to manage; it slipt, pierced an eye. Sympathetic inflammation set in, and he lost the sight of both eyes.

And altho, we read in *The Living Church* (Episcopal), for the next forty years Louis Braille was to know what Helen Keller describes as "traveling trackless ways, stumbling at noonday as in the night," the accident was to make him the blind's greatest hero. Gutenberg gave the printed word to the world. Louis Braille was to make the blind see with their finger-tips.

Courtesy of the American Red Cross

For the Blind to See with Their Finger-Tips

Volunteer workers of the New York chapter of the American Red Cross typing Braille characters for some of the 76,000 sightless of the country. Last year 191,732 hand-copied pages of Braille were made by 1,155 volunteer Red Cross workers.

Only the sightless, perhaps, can appreciate the great gift, and here is a little of the story:

"When ten years old, Louis was sent to a school for the blind, encountering there not only a rich domain of literature, music, and mathematics, but also embossed Roman type, which one could learn to read by feeling it with his fingers.

"At sixteen, he worked out his own system of embossed letters, and made a slate on which to write them. Later, while a professor in a school for the blind, he invented the present system of writing in raised dots, which is the standard printing for the sightless.

"The Braille characters—different groups of six small raised dots—made by pressing a sharp point upon stiff paper—have opened up to all who can not see the infinite worlds of music, literature, and education.

"It was soon discovered that Braille's system was too expensive for commercial use. Even to-day, $20 worth of books in ordinary printing would cost $200 if commercially produced in Braille.

"It was apparent that the blind would have to depend chiefly upon the patient, tedious, hour-by-hour labor of sympathetic people, using Braille slates or Braille writers, the latter resembling typewriters, and speedier than the slates."

HOWEVER, the Red Cross accepted the challenge of the 76,000 blind people in this country, and we read:

"In 1921 it assumed leadership of the work, assigning a

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Red Cross director of Braille to work with and through the Library of Congress.

"It created a simplified training course of ten lessons in Braille transcribing which can be learned by correspondence or personal instruction. Church women and their groups seeking a leisure-time project have become enthusiastic over Braille.

"Local Red Cross chapters have found it a service of great appeal to the public. A message from Red Cross Midwestern Area Headquarters, St. Louis, says that volunteer Braille transcribers are steadily on the job in chapters from Maine to California and Florida to Washington, and with the record of 191,732 hand-copied pages of Braille made by these 1,155 volunteers, last year, Louis Braille becomes an intensely interesting historical figure.

"In the Middle West, Braille transcribing is an activity of thirty-nine Red Cross chapters, distributed among the States of Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wyoming. Sixteen of these chapters have undertaken the work since last July.

"Last year, the number of certified Red Cross Braille transcribers in the Midwest increased from 195 to 226. Since July 1, 1929, these workers have Brailled 42,480 pages. Church groups, women's clubs, and other local organizations are supporting the local chapters in their pursuit."

The Menace of Childless Homes

CHILDLESS HOMES lead to divorce.

That is the considered opinion of Supreme Court Justice Lewis of Brooklyn, who, in a survey of sixty-four undefended divorce cases tried by him in one day, discovered that there was but one child for every two couples, and that the duration of the marriages averaged less than three years.

This eminent jurist believes that too many women are not becoming mothers, and apparently have listened eagerly to the advocates of birth control. As he is quoted in the press, Justice Lewis says:

"I have taken this matter up with my associates on the bench, and between us we have tried thousands of undefended marital cases.

"It is my conclusion that childlesss homes are responsible for the almost complete absence of real home life.

"In nine cases out of ten, the suing woman eagerly says she desires no alimony, which leads to the inescapable conclusion that she is so anxious to get rid of the man she promised to love, honor and obey, that she waives all alimony, and is willing to step out into the wordaday world and earn her own livelihood.

"Not long ago a home meant something. It was the location of our birth. It was the place where we entertained our friends and where we held all our family functions.

"To-day we are born in hospitals, we entertain in our clubs, we eat in restaurants, we entertain our visiting friends in cabarets, we are married in the churches or hotels, and we are buried from funeral parlors.

"I can not help but reach the conclusion that if our women had children there would be more happiness and fewer divorces.

"Presence of children attracts the husband to his home, and keeps the mothers from the gossiping neighbors and bridge parties.

"Absence of children promotes discord. Their presence makes for harmony.

"I know of scores of cases where the husband remains home merely for the sake of his love for the children. If such men did not have children, they would leave their wives and either get or give a divorce."

"THOSE who are interested in the future of the Republic," comments *The Reformed Church Messenger*, "can scarcely afford to ignore the implications of this statement by Judge Lewis."

But the proportion of people who live outside their homes, says the Philadelphia *Evening Public Ledger*, is small, and, so far as they are concerned, the Philadelphia paper doubts that there is anything in the situation "to alarm those interested in maintaining the old-fashioned standards of American life."

Cheating at College

"ONE-HALF OF THE YALE UNDERGRADUATES are guilty of cheating."

That is the startling announcement in the Yale *News*, which asserts, too, that the members of the faculty are amused by the situation, and that the offense is not seriously regarded on the campus.

No member of the faculty who would comment on the editorial could be found, says a dispatch to the New York *World*, altho, we read, it is generally known that the faculty will have no mercy on those caught cheating.

The editorial in the Yale *News* recites, in part:

"In the matter of classroom honesty we make the conservative estimate that at least half of the Yale undergraduates are guilty of breaking college rules during the exam. period. The penalty is expulsion; the description, cheating.

"Inasmuch as the man who cheats is not morally weak or degenerate in the eyes of the world within the college campus, we are faced further with this problem.

"A man who is convicted by the dean's office of cheating, and leaves college under the stigma of that hideous word, takes on an aspect of moral guilt which his companions and the immediate community where he dwells do not of their own accord inflict.

"The outside world will not judge him by conditions as they prevail here, and so he lives by two standards."

BEYOND the Yale campus cheating is regarded more seriously, tho the Brooklyn *Eagle* tempers its judgment, thus:

"It is not charged that in competitive tests where other students might lose prizes or honors there is cheating.

"But where 'getting through' is concerned, the question 'What harm does cheating do?' is in the student's mind. He may not be able to see that, while his family are pleased, he is himself the real victim, because his personal morality is involved, and that is gravely weakened.

"Too many students and too many faculty members everywhere make these tests a matter of hide and seek, a game between one side and the other. So considered, examinations have an element of humor.

"But if character building is the main end of education, such humor can be dispensed with. The game is not worth the candle."

But it is a rather specious defense to say that no special stigma attaches to the cheater in the eyes of his fellow students, asserts the Albany *Knickerbocker Press*, and "what the punishment should be for those who are caught at this form of classroom dishonesty is beside the point. Colleges may decide that as they wish."

"But to imply that cheating is an innocent practise, merely because it is common, is surely a poor defense. And it is equally wide of the fact to say that persons who are scrupulous about their private conduct, and demand it in others, will look with tolerant eyes on classroom cheating, merely because it is a common practise in schools."

"THE public reaction to such an exposure is, of course, one of humiliation," says the Indianapolis *News*, and

"If the charge can be accepted as true, there is something wrong with the moral training in homes and schools, for it is asking too much of the universities that they remake the moral structure of the young men and women who come to them past the age of adolescence. They can provide an environment in which adherence to a high moral standard will be encouraged, but they can hardly reach into the basic home life of the country.

"This is a problem for the churches and schools, and goes back, finally, to parents."

To the Schenectady *Union-Star* "it is a pretty terrible indictment not only of Yale but of the whole moral training of the rising generation. It would mean that within a few short years the fundamental conception of honesty among American youths has turned a complete somersault."

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LUXURIOUS TRANSPORTATION

The imperial coach which carried Napoleon and Josephine to their coronation glittered with golden ornament. Drawn by eight richly caparisoned steeds, it was the most luxurious vehicle of 19th century France

EVERYONE knows that the distinguished Packard Eight provides today's supremely luxurious transportation. But not everyone knows that Packard ownership need cost no more than motoring in vehicles of lower price and less distinction.

The facts are these: *Operating* costs in the aggregate are no greater for a Packard Standard Eight than for any other car of like size, no matter what its price. And *depreciation* cost is no greater when the owner keeps his Packard a little longer than he is accustomed to drive lesser vehicles.

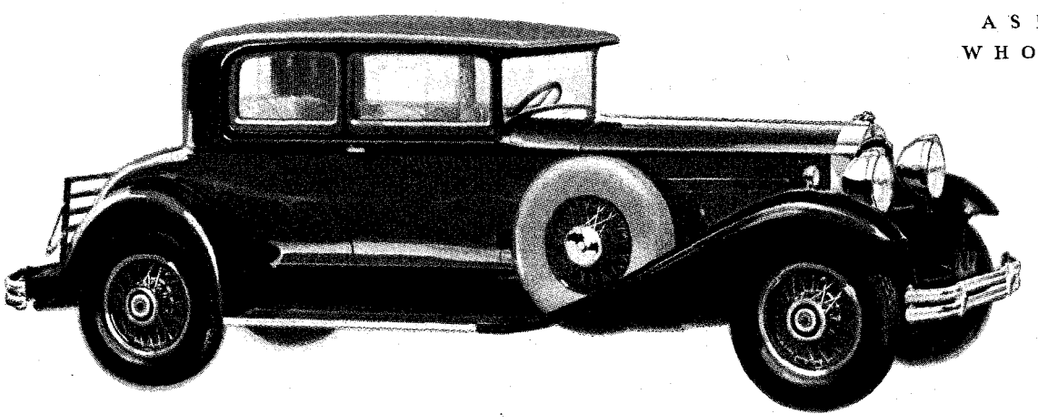
Thus a car delivered at around sixteen or seventeen hundred dollars and traded in after two years or so costs fully as much in depreciation as a Packard Standard Eight driven some three years. And records show that most Packard owners *do* keep their cars much longer —both in months and miles!

Apply these facts to your own motoring. Compare the actual costs of your present car with those of a Packard Standard Eight — which any Packard man will gladly supply. Perhaps you, too, will find that *you are paying for a Packard* without enjoying its beauty, its distinction and its luxury.

And if you *are* paying for a Packard, *why not have one?*

PACKARD

ASK THE MAN WHO OWNS ONE



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CURRENT POETRY

UNSOLICITED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS DEPARTMENT CAN NOT BE RETURNED. UNPUBLISHED POETRY UNAVAILABLE

THE poet and novelist, so recently lost to the world, left this for *The London Mercury*—perhaps his swan song; at any rate, his lifelong faith:

THE TRIUMPH OF THE MACHINE

By D. H. Lawrence

They talk of the triumph of the machine,
but the machine will never triumph.

Out of the thousands and thousands of centuries of man
the unrolling of ferns, while tongues of acanthus lapping at the sun
for one sad century
machines have triumphed, rolled us hither and thither,
hardened the earth, shaking the lark's nest till the eggs have broken.

Shaken the marshes, till the geese have gone
and the wild swans flown away, singing the swan-song of us.

Hard, hard on the earth the machines are rolling,
but through some hearts they will never roll.

Ah no, in the hearts of some men there still is sanctuary
where the lark nests safely.

The lark nests in his heart,
and through the reeds of his marshy loins
swims the mallard duck at dawn, in that quick joy;
deer crash their horns in the mountains of his breast,
there are foxes in the cover of his beard.

Ah no, the machine will never triumph;
in some hearts still the sanctuaries of wild life
are quite untouched.

And at last
all the creatures that cannot die while one heart harbours them
they will hear a silence fall
as the machines fail and finish;
they will hear the faint rending of the asphalt roads
as the hornbeam pushes up his sprouts;
they will hear far, far away the last factory hooter
send up the last wild cry of despair
as the machine breaks finally down.

And then at last
all the creatures that were driven back into the uttermost corners of the soul
they will peep forth.

BY some curious coincidence, the poetry of the current leading magazines runs to homely themes of rural life. The following two are from *The Atlantic Monthly:*

NEW ENGLAND SKETCHES

By R. S.

VILLAGE SUNDAY

Downhill the rutted road runs through meadows rimmed with birch,
To the village green that's hedged in by the headstones of the dead;
Where old people sing in a white wooden church,
And the minister is saying what his grandfather said.

Across the square from the cotton mill the Sabbath has set free
Black-suited groups of mill hands who are garrulous and bored;
For they left the merry village inns and the wine of Tuscany
For a telphone, a radio, and a second-hand Ford.

The Higgins' tend an antique shop, the Smiths' a sausage stand,
Down where the oily factory waste defiles the swimming hole;
But the Perkins' have a day of rest, they till ancestral land.
For the oldest child, Priscilla, is married to a Pole.

OLD HOUSE

There's a house across the hilltop that no one's living in,
With rotten rafters falling and windows hollow-eyed,
With weeds upon the threshold and nothing left within
But the ruins of a bedstead where the last possessor died.
The goldenrod is smothering dilapidated pickets
That protected the dooryard where the children played,
And the cow pasture's tangled with encroaching alder thickets
That obliterate the paths that the cattle made.

Strange incongruities the garden hedge encloses,
With rows of careful gardening obscured by random seeds,
With wild things from the meadows in the shadows of the roses,
And little Johnny-jump-ups that hardly top the weeds.
Birds in the dawn of day, dropping from the elm trees,
Call for the children that have wandered long ago;
And summer awakens it with riotous fertilities,
And winter makes it silent with a covering of snow.

SOMETHING sardonic and cheerful in *Harper's*. Country and city folks are far from understanding each other, so they substitute mutual condescension:

REPLY TO A SUMMER BOARDER

By Edna Kingsley Wallace

What do we do when season's done, you say?
Well, I dunno—there seems enough to do
A-livin' our own lives an' wonderin' who
Has made the most this year. Ain't nothin' jay
About us any more. We're pretty gay,
With radio, an' the movies—'lection, too,
An' jaunts to town to git us somethin' new—
For winters *we* folks take some time to play.
You don't take life away, ma'am, when you go,
For everywhar we humans air thar's bound
To be a sight o' livin'. Seems real funny
Anyone likes cities. Want to know
Our *fav'rite* sport? It's jest to set around
An' talk about you folks—an' count our money.

THE blackened gaps in the countryside which kindly nature tries to cover up are frequent sights for the motorist, but he rushes by with only a passing thought for the tragedy. In *The Yale Review:*

THE BETRAYAL

By Robert P. Tristram Coffin

The house is burned, the trees around
  Have nothing more to do.
There is pathos in their plan
  To give a pleasant view.

The elms that drew their branches up
  To let the sunset by
Stand surprised to see the waste
  Of unseen amber sky.

The spruces on the northern side
  Have black and honored scars;
They suffered when the house enrolled
  With ancientest of stars.

So the green things taught to love
  This rootless plant called man
Are betrayed by wrathful foes
  His yoke has dared to span.

But here and there forgiving weeds
  Have done their best to hide
The cavern for forbidden flame
  High in the chimney's side.

The Commonweal (New York) presents us a man and a symbol, something like a Whitcomb Riley theme:

THE WEATHER VANE

By Robert P. Tristram Coffin

A man should choose with careful eye
The things to be remembered by.

When I was knee-high to a man,
My father hired Tom McCann.

Tom's days were bean-rows without end
And rotting shingles still to mend.

But one blue day the man carved out
An arrow clean as a small boy's shout.

He set up near where God may be
His arrow on a tall pine tree.

The years that broke his willing heart
Could never rend this man apart.

The years that snowed upon his hair
Could never harm him anywhere.

I wish that men might think of me
Along with ships far out at sea,

Think of me in ways of weather,
Mix me and thunderheads together,

Remember me by a weather vane
Pointing to beauty and the rain.

"ROOMS TO LET" is a city sign, but this scene in *Scribner's* evidently belongs to a half-way place between city and country:

NEW BOARDING-HOUSE

By Lilian H. Woody

A well-kept lawn belied the shabby hall
And down-at-heel black cook who let me in.
(I later found that she was known as Min.)
Then came my keeper to her nasal call.
I saw the dark-red carpet and the wall
That gave no hint of what it once had been.
We mounted stairs, each edged with shiny tin;
Another passage dark—"Look out! Don't fall!"
A sticking door shoved open. "Here's your room.
Now make yourself at home"; and then she went.
Dark wood-work, sagging bed, and creaking floor,
Enshrouded by a heavy pall of gloom.
The tears that all day long had been up-pent
Refused to come. Perhaps I have no more.

JUST for the sake of a change of scene, we end with this in *G. K.'s Weekly* (London):

WILD BIRD

By Helen Morris

He came, and all unhurriedly he spoke;
And somewhere in her heart
A wild bird
Stirred. . .
And woke.
And the wonder of its music,
Bound together
Wound together
Forever with the eternal cords of silence,
Came flooding through the stillness.

But the years were unrelenting, hard and grey:
The world was far too wise for fools as they,
Fools that loved music,
Or a petal's flight
Through coloured dusk. . . .
Rain . . . and the night.
And so at last the wild bird
Ceased to sing,
And lay quieter than the quiet of her heart,
A dead forgotten thing.

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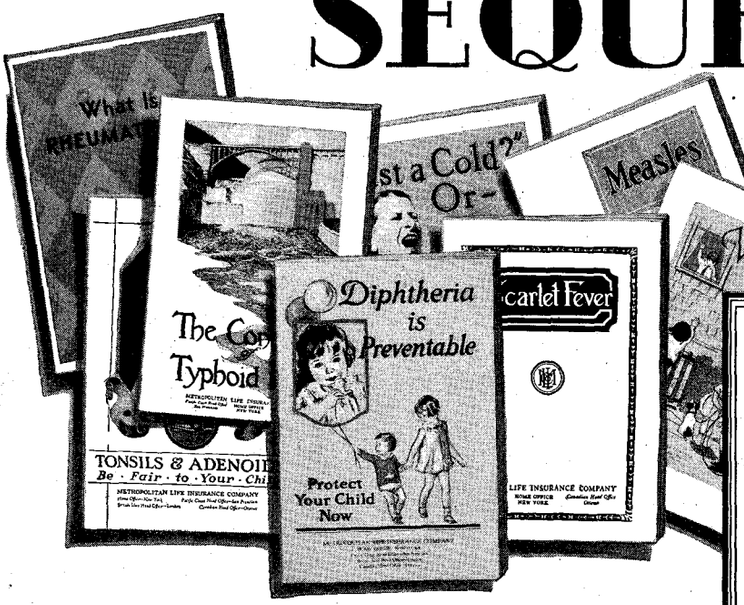
Perils of SEQUELAE

Send this coupon today

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. Dept. 830-L
1 Madison Ave., New York City

Please send free booklet (or booklets) checked below:

- ☐ Diphtheria
- ☐ Typhoid Fever
- ☐ Scarlet Fever
- ☐ Tonsils and Adenoids
- ☐ Whooping Cough
- ☐ Measles
- ☐ Rheumatism
- ☐ Colds

Name .....

Street Address .....

City ..... State .....

"SEQUELAE" (seh-kweé-lee) is the doctor's word for the whole range of consequences and serious complications following certain illnesses. Weakened hearts, kidneys, lungs, defective hearing or eyesight and other physical impairments may be the Sequelae of many diseases.

There is a homely old expression, "not out of the woods yet", which fairly describes the condition of a patient who has successfully passed the crisis of a serious illness.

Your doctor will tell you that sometimes the Sequelae, or after-effects, are more to be dreaded than the disease from which you are apparently recovering. Don't think him an alarmist if his orders are strict about not getting up from bed too soon, or if he makes a thorough physical examination after you think you are entirely well.

COLDS break ground for pneumonia, influenza, or tuberculosis. Deafness, sinus infection, or chronic rheumatism, or a weakened heart may follow an ordinary cold.

TYPHOID FEVER leaves the patient more susceptible to other diseases and sometimes affects the heart and gall-bladder.

DIPHTHERIA may injure the heart or cause paralysis.

MEASLES may be followed by pneumonia, kidney trouble, loss of sight or hearing.

WHOOPING COUGH may be followed by pneumonia or tuberculosis.

TONSILAR INFECTION may be followed by rheumatic fever or heart trouble.

SCARLET FEVER may affect the heart, kidneys or ears.

RHEUMATIC FEVER often seriously injures the heart.

The Metropolitan health booklets tell in plain language how some of the Sequelae of diseases may be avoided. If anyone in your family is suffering or recovering from one of the diseases which may leave serious after-effects, send for the Metropolitan's booklet concerning it and learn just what you should know about the possible Sequelae. Address Booklet Dept. 830-L and name the booklet you want. It will be mailed free.

METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

FREDERICK H. ECKER, PRESIDENT — ONE MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y.

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Townless Highways

A RADICAL CHANGE IN THE POLICY of locating highways seems to be at hand.

In the past we have run them through as many towns as possible.

This has resulted in the "motor slum."

Instead of beautiful scenery, the motorist now views, in the vicinity of towns, a miscellaneous assemblage of mean and shoddy buildings, glaring bill-boards and disfigured trees and fields.

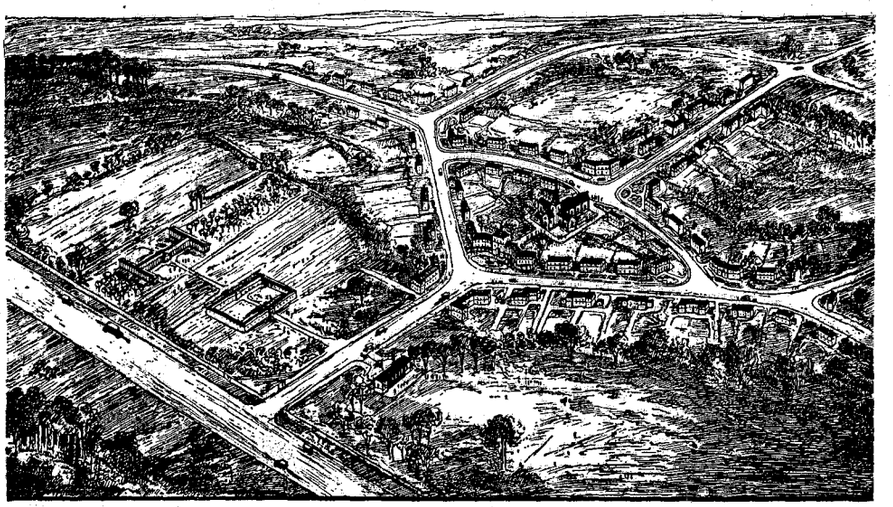
The remedy, we are told in *The American City* (New York), is the "townless highway"—the main artery that avoids the towns and connects with them only by "feeders." The writer bases his treatment on an article contributed by an expert regional planner, Benton MacKaye, to *The New Republic* (New York). We read in *The American City:*

"The motor slum in the open country is to-day as massive a piece of defilement as the worst of the old-fashioned urban industrial slums, and highway transportation that leads through the hearts of our cities and villages, making every crossing a grade crossing, is safe for neither motorist nor pedestrian. It is a strange fact that an acute problem no sooner makes itself clear than a remedy also appears. The author goes on to give what appears not only a specific remedy, but a great step forward in efficient land use.

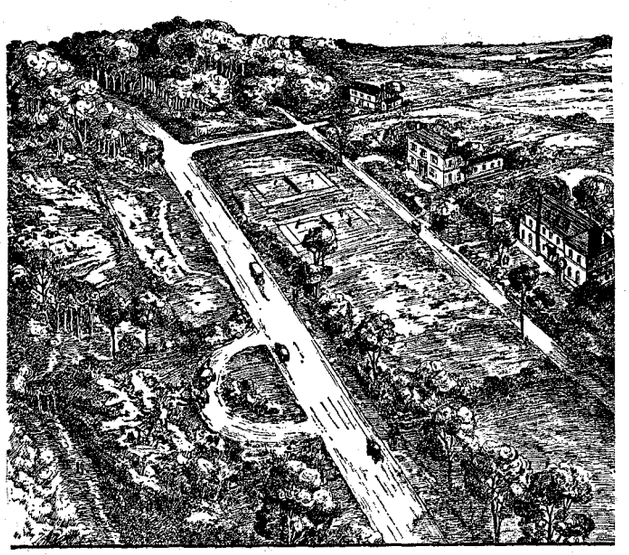
"The statement of conditions, and the almost revolutionary remedy proposed, appeared simultaneously with kindred statements and proposals covering the London region, and Great Britain as a whole.

"The cure for this evil Mr. MacKaye sees in a new regional planning—substantially the designing of great systems of townless highways, and the creation of new community plans that meet new requirements.

"Instead of a single roadtown slum, congealing between our big cities, the townless highway would encourage building of real communities, at definite and favorable points off the road."



The Town Located Off the Noisy Through Road



Parkway Treatment of a Highway

This provides open space for recreation development, turn-outs for repairs or for picnics, and more quiet for residents.

Mr. MacKaye summarizes the specific objectives of the townless highway:

"To abolish the motor slum, or roadtown, and develop the rural wayside environment; the abolition of approaches to the main highway except at certain points; public ownership or control through rigorous zoning of the foreground along the right-of-way; proper landscape development and, finally, strict control of service-station development, including location, architecture, management of filling stations, eating places, and other wayside utilities.

"Avoidance by the highway of the small town or village, and its approach via a side lane, or more than one. Each community to be laid out in accordance with approved modern town-planning principles, for economy, amenity, and preservation as a distinct community.

"To insure safety alike to the through motorist and to the local population. This entails abolition of grade-crossings, the use of safety traps at all approaches to the highway; limitation to passenger traffic, and the building of suitable express highways for motor-freight traffic.

"A national highway policy based on these features would have a leverage in hand, namely the fund now being annually appropriated by Congress for federal aid to State roads. These appropriations, Mr. MacKaye adds, could be made on the contingency that specific conditions be carried out.

"In at least one State, New York, high-speed express highways, by-passing towns and villages, are officially forecast to replace the present roads.

"When the original State roads were laid out, they were designed to pick up as many centers as possible. Now the time has come for a new policy. Main roads will be kept to country districts, and will avoid congested centers."

THE Town Planning Institute of Great Britain has recently submitted a "Statement of Evidence" to the National Park Committee, which pertinently states:

"The chief concern of the Institute is the efficient and seemly development of the country as a whole. Existing tendencies, if left unchecked, will leave but little unspoiled country, except in some such form as national parks. At the moment, national, regional, and town planning appear to be in a state of flux, principally owing to new methods of transport, and much which will fundamentally affect planning methods is only now beginning to be realized.

"The country is viewed principally from the highways, and disfigurement will go on with increasing impetus until our planning methods are changed. National parks should be component parts of a nation-wide scheme of parkways, parks, open spaces, and playing fields, linked together by through traffic roads which are not development roads."

(*Continued on page 29*)

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They gave a *new* Thrill

THAT'S WHY THEY GOT THERE....SO QUICKLY

"Please, Mister, c'n I fly it?"

At the crack of dawn, while her family slept, this 15-year-old kid took forbidden flying lessons. "The Boys" called her "the headless pilot." She couldn't see over the edge of the cockpit.

© P. Lorillard Co.

ELINOR SMITH

Eighteen years old . . . and she's risen higher than any other woman in all world history. "Born with wings," say hard-boiled pilots. "The kid's a 'natural' when you put her in a plane."

But there's another young ace with that same story.

OLD GOLD hopped off just four years ago. In less than three months it zoomed into favor. In one short year it had climbed to the ceiling. Today, it holds the coast-to-coast record . . . as America's fastest growing cigarette.

For, OLD GOLD, too, is a *natural* flyer. Made of better tobaccos. Endowed by nature with a new taste-thrill. Free from irritants. More smoke pleasure. Greater throat-ease.

OLD GOLD, too, was "born with wings."

ON OCTOBER 24, 1926, the first carload of OLD GOLDS reached the Pacific coast . . . endless trainloads have been going westward ho ever since—with nary a cough in a carload.

BETTER TOBACCOS . . . "NOT A COUGH IN A CARLOAD"

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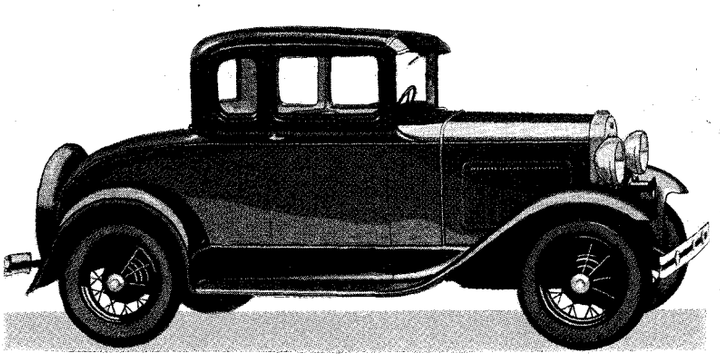
Wherever the long trail leads

Through heavy city traffic—across fertile valleys and desert sands—to the top of snow-capped mountains—wherever the long trail leads—you will find the Ford car and cheery words about it. « « « « «

Its flashing beauty of line and color gives it distinction at the Country Club, yet it is no stranger to deeply rutted roads and hard daily usage in the far-off places. Its sturdy strength, reliability and capable performance at all times and under all conditions, reflect the care and enduring quality that have been built into it. « « « « « « « «

By its constant, faithful service through many months and years—by your ever-growing pride in it—you will know that it is a value far above the price.



THE NEW FORD COUPE

A splendid choice for physicians, business executives and salesmen because of its attractive lines, reliability, economy, comfort and safety. Its alert speed, quick acceleration and ease of control give it a distinct advantage in crowded traffic. Ease of parking is another feature you will appreciate on a busy day.

Ford

FORD MOTOR COMPANY

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THE NEW THREE-WINDOW FORDOR SEDAN

Built to serve you faithfully and well for many thousands of miles. An unusually comfortable car because of its generous interior room, the specially designed transverse springs and four Houdaille double-acting hydraulic shock absorbers. Long trips are swift and pleasant in the new Ford.

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Family away?...you can Telephone them Quickly and Inexpensively

No matter how widely scattered your family may be, the telephone "keeps it together"

Your telephone is your pathway to the world . . . whether you are home or away

Telephone calls at regular intervals add much to vacation pleasures

MANY people find the telephone an ideal means for "keeping the family together" during the summer. No matter how widely scattered the different members may be . . . mountains, seashore, forest camp, lake resort . . . a telephone call reaches them quickly and easily. It is a convenient way to exchange news, make plans, order supplies, etc. And it means a lot to hear the voices of loved ones regularly . . . learn what they are doing . . . know that they are well and happy.

If your vacation plans call for traveling, the telephone will add much to your enjoyment. It will keep you in close touch with friends and relatives. By telephoning ahead you can be sure of hotel or camp accommodations . . . make arrangements of many sorts.

Busy executives leave their offices free from worry, knowing that if necessary they can be reached immediately by telephone. The vice-president of a large corporation was vacationing at a seashore resort when a question came up requiring instant decision. An associate prepared to travel to him, but before starting he telephoned. In five minutes the matter was settled, saving vital time and making the trip unnecessary. Telephoning between cities is *Quick . . . Easy . . . Inexpensive.*

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A Flying Outboard-Motor Boat

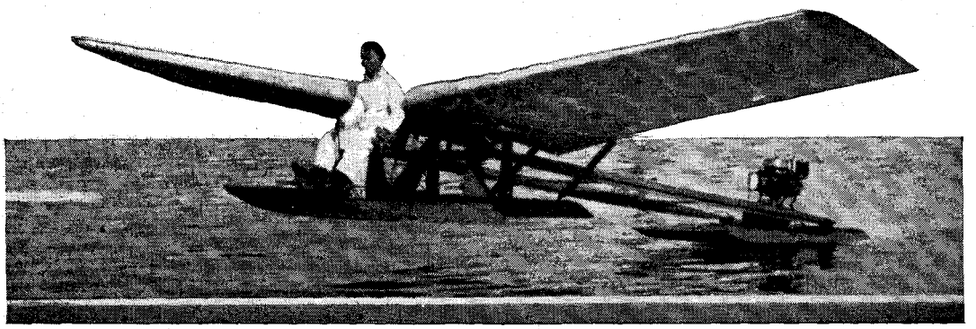
A NEW WATER SPORT that combines the safety of outboard motor-boating and the thrills of flying is made possible by the "Waterplane," designed by Russell and Milton Robertson of Alameda, California. They had repeatedly watched tiny outboard powered racing craft rear their bows out of water. The thought occurred to them: Why not put wings on the boat and lift it completely out of the water? Says *The Scientific American* (New York, July):

"Essentially the 'Waterplane' consists of two units connected together by hinged arms. The rear unit is composed of two pontoons which support a standard four-cylinder outboard motor.

"The front unit is nothing more nor less than a glider, but in this case it is a glider that does not require a ground crew, being entirely controlled by the pilot. The fuselage of the glider is so constructed that it will float on the water, and can be pushed by the outboard motor.

"When the proper speed is reached, the pilot manipulates the controls, and up in the air goes the glider. The motor stays in the water and continues to furnish the motive power as long as the pilot desires to stay aloft. The glider can reach a height of from 10 to 15 feet above the surface of the water.

"Milton Robertson tells of flying a 'Waterplane' as follows:



P. & A. photograph, from *The Scientific American* (New York)

"Waterplane" Rising After a Run of 150 Feet

'Seated at the controls, the pilot starts the motor by means of the electric self-starter. From a standing start to full flying speed requires a 150-foot run. At first it is best to plane over the surface, getting used to the controls. At about thirty-five miles per hour, the stick is pulled gently back, and the "Waterplane" leaves the water. At first it took all my attention to navigate, but after the first few times aloft, the movements of the stick became automatic. Slowing the motor to a little below flying speed allows the plane to settle gently to the surface.'

"The glider unit of the 'Waterplane' is equipped with the usual controls for ailerons, rudder, and elevators. By proper manipulation of them the pilot can bank on the turns, swoop gracefully from higher to lower altitudes, and get a taste of all of the thrills of actual flight, at the same time 'keeping one foot on the ground.'"

Man's Hand and Woman's Hand

THE first finger of a woman's hand is almost always longer than her third, while the first finger of a man's hand is likely to be shorter. This has been confirmed, says Dr. E. E. Free in his *Week's Science* (New York), by Ruggles George of the University of Toronto, and is reported by the Wistar Institute Bibliographic Service of Philadelphia. We read:

"The result was obtained, Mr. George reports, by examining 630 hands of white adults in North America.

"There is no difference between right hands and left hands in this particular; both feminine hands tending to have long first fingers while both masculine hands have long third ones. Mr. George's announcement does not commit him to any theory of the cause of this curious difference, altho some cause must exist in differing activities or heredities of the two sexes.

"It is tempting to consider the difference a result of different habits of men and women in savage times or in the still more ancient period when mankind was evolving slowly out of ape-like creatures. Under such savage or prehuman conditions, the male hand probably was used most importantly for grasping something; perhaps the limb of a tree or the handle of a weapon. Such use might be expected to strengthen and lengthen the third finger, which is at the center of the grasp.

"Under the same social conditions women, it is probable, had much less need to grasp things, but greater need to handle small and delicate things, like picking seeds from the ground or out of a seed pot, or handling small domestic tools like pins or needles. Thus the first finger, which is used chiefly for such things, got more exercise from its feminine owners, and grew correspondingly longer."

How Common Things Work—XXIV

Vinegar-Making

VINEGAR HAS LONG BEEN THE FAVORITE condiment when an acid taste is desired.

Its sourness is derived from acetic acid, and its flavor from the particular substance from which it is prepared. Cider or white wine are chiefly used.

Acetic acid is also prepared on a large scale by the destructive distillation of wood. It is a colorless liquid, and has a strong pungent odor. We read in McPherson, Henderson, and Fowler's "Chemistry for To-day" (Ginn & Company):

"As is well known, when cider is exposed to the air, it is gradually transformed into vinegar. Two changes are involved in the process: (1) the sugar in the cider first undergoes alcoholic fermentation, forming hard cider, which contains from 4 to 8 per cent. of alcohol; (2) the alcohol is then oxidized to acetic acid, the necessary oxygen coming from the air. This oxidation is brought about through the action of a minute organism. The oxidation of alcohol into acetic acid through the agency of the organism is known as acetic fermentation.

"The old method of making vinegar consisted simply in storing cider in barrels until the fermentation was complete—a process requiring several weeks. In the modern method the change is brought about in a few hours, a large cask known as a generator being used.

"The generator is filled loosely with beech shavings. Vinegar is first sprayed into the top of the cask in order to introduce the essential organism. This organism attaches itself to the shavings, which are used because they present a large surface.

"Next, a dilute solution of alcohol (hard cider, in the case of cider vinegar) is sprayed into the top of the cask while air is admitted at the bottom. In this way the alcohol and oxygen are brought into intimate contact, and the oxidation takes place rapidly as the liquid trickles down over the shavings. The resulting vinegar is drawn off at the bottom of the cask.

"Instead of starting with cider, one may use almost any substance which contains starch or sugar, these compounds first being changed into alcohol. In this way we prepare malt vinegar from starch, and sugar vinegar from sugar residues. The cheapest vinegar is made from ordinary dilute alcohol, and is known as distilled vinegar. It is colorless, and leaves no residue upon evaporation.

"The Federal law requires that all vinegar shall contain not less than 4 per cent. of acetic acid. In addition to the acid, vinegar prepared from fruits and grains contains certain solids derived from the source materials. It is by studying the character of these solids left upon evaporating a sample of vinegar that the chemist is able to determine the source of the vinegar."

Vinegar, the Encyclopedia Britannica tells us, derives its name from the fact that it was first obtained by souring fermented wine (*vin*, wine + *aigre*, sharp). The vinegar industry dates from the seventeenth century, when it was established in France. Before, it was a by-product of the brewer and wine producer. In the reign of Charles II, the connection between the vinegar and brewing industry is indicated by English Revenue Acts which impose different duties on "beer and vinegar beer."

(*Continued on page 33*)

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This Saturday

THE EIGHT

Four new series, featuring masterly new engines, all Straight Eights . . . new Syncro-Mesh Transmissions . . . new Insulated Bodies by Fisher . . . the culmination of Buick's 27 years of fine car building*

This Saturday, the Buick Motor Company will present the most thrilling motor cars Buick has ever created . . . and by far the greatest performing Buicks ever built . . . four straight eights, with four wheelbases and four price ranges, including one line of eights at an even lower price than the fine Buick sixes of last year.

The new Buicks are powered by magnificent straight eight engines—Valve-in-Head, of course. Buick will build eights *exclusively*. . . . Buick, outstanding leader in fine car manufacture for more than a quarter-century, has naturally concentrated upon producing eights of exceptional quality . . . and the new cars will carry their own message of excellence to all America.

The new creations embody many vitally important advancements including these major features:

NEW BUICK VALVE-IN-HEAD STRAIGHT EIGHT ENGINES—providing a degree of performance far surpassing even the finest previous Buick creations.

NEW SYNCRO-MESH TRANSMISSIONS—an ultra-luxurious feature, imparting smooth, silent, non-clash gear-shifting.

NEW INSULATED BODIES BY FISHER—skillfully insulated, like a fine home, against heat, cold and noise.

The heart of the new Buick is under the hood. The thrill of the new Buick is on the road. For here are resources of power, smoothness and swiftness—combined with a train-like sureness and steadiness of flight—heretofore unknown in Buick's field. Moreover, every unit of Buick's Valve-in-Head Straight Eights is expressly designed to assure uniform excellence throughout the cars. Every unit reveals increased size and strength to conform with the increased power of the new engines.

America knows Buick . . . knows Buick engineering and manufactur-

* THE NEW SYNCRO-MESH TRANSMISSION . . . .

A costly, ultra-luxurious feature . . . imparting smooth, silent, non-clash gear-shifting . . . employed in three of the series, with Buick's fine standard transmission in the series of lowest price.

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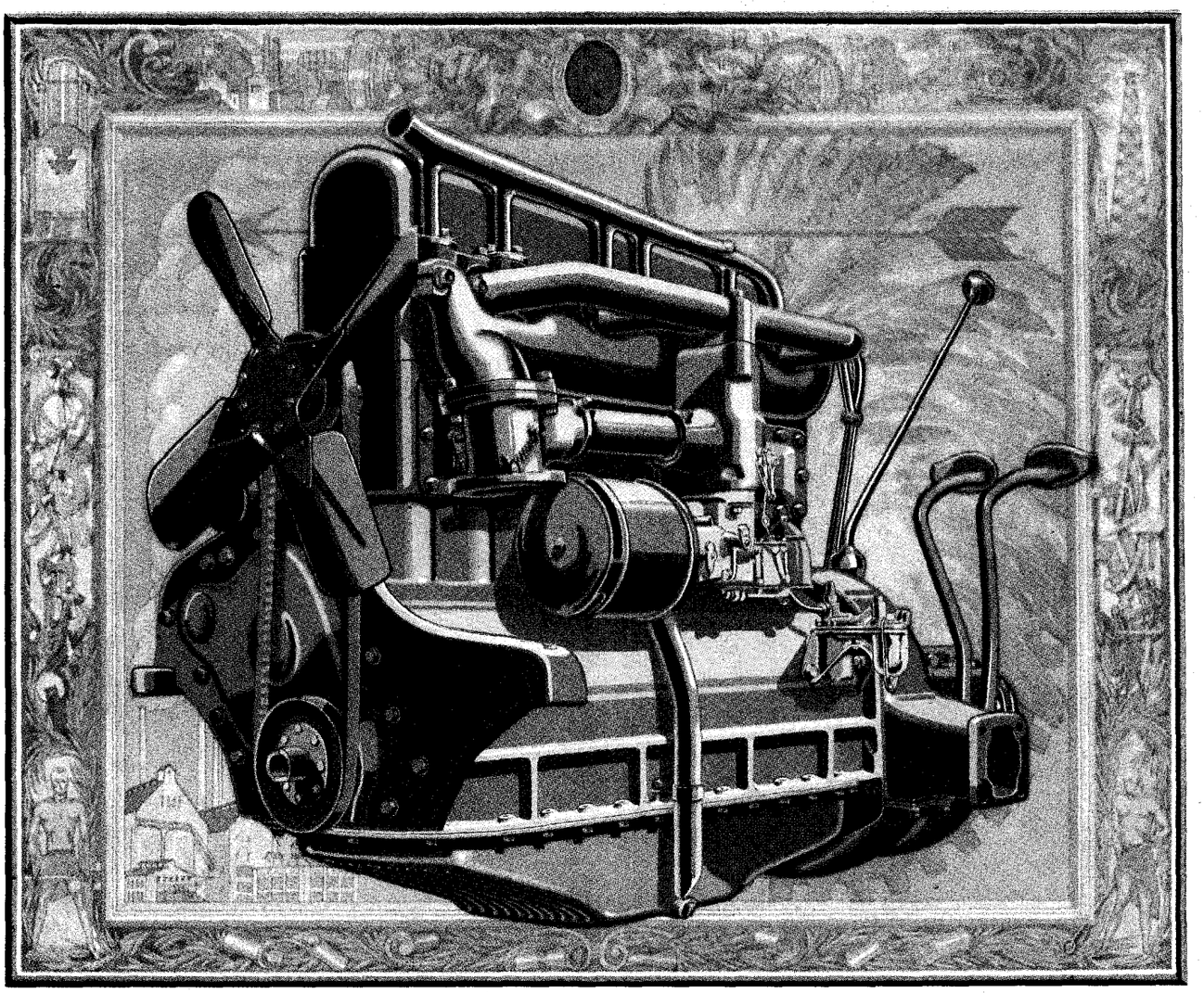
AS BUICK BUILDS IT



ing leadership . . . knows Buick soundness and reliability during more than a quarter-century . . . knows Buick so well that men and women have long purchased more than twice as many Buicks as any other automobile priced above $1200. And America knows, too, that Buick's Valve-in-Head Straight Eights, like every new Buick of preceding years, will faithfully reflect Buick's pledge, "When better automobiles are built, Buick will build them."

Buick cordially invites you — not merely to view the Eight as Buick builds it, but to drive it as well. On display at Buick showrooms everywhere Saturday, July 26th.

Buick Motor Company, Flint, Michigan • Division of General Motors Corporation
Canadian Factories, McLaughlin-Buick, Oshawa, Ontario

WHEN BETTER
AUTOMOBILES ARE BUILT
BUICK WILL BUILD THEM

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AN OPEN ANSWER

to responses received following the publication of an Open Letter to Mayors, Road Officials, Chambers of Commerce, and Civic Organizations

Information regarding the use of Flake Calcium Chloride will be furnished by any of the companies listed here. Booklet 9Y gives full details of highway uses. Special folder 9A tells how YOU can try this modern method on your tennis court or driveway. Write today.

FLAKE
CALCIUM CHLORIDE
CONTROLS DUST

THE following information is submitted for those who have expressed interest in the Flake Calcium Chloride method of preserving gravel road surfaces and preventing dust.

Calcium Chloride is perfectly clean and perfectly harmless. It is odorless and does not track or stain.

There is no questioning the complete effectiveness of Calcium Chloride for preventing dust. For over twenty years Calcium Chloride has been used as a dust layer and surface binder. Its success has justified continually increasing use for both purposes.

Many who used Calcium Chloride as a dust layer have been amazed at the saving it effected as a surface binder. Others who used it to lower the cost of road maintenance have been pleased to find that it ended the dust nuisance.

The effectiveness and economy of Calcium Chloride for preventing dust and protecting road surfaces has led many communities to the conclusion that dusty roads are an unnecessary expense as well as a nuisance.

CALCIUM CHLORIDE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE
THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY, Midland, Michigan
SOLVAY SALES CORPORATION, 40 Rector Street, New York
THE COLUMBIA PRODUCTS COMPANY, Barberton, Ohio

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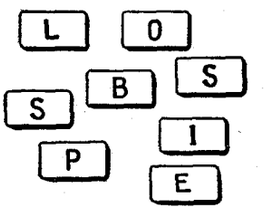
Are You a Genius?

OR HAVE YOU THE CAPACITY to become one? There are no rules, says Kenneth Bronaldo Murray, in *Everyday Mechanics* (New York), but some simple tests may tell something of your capabilities.

Take stock of yourself, advises Mr. Murray; the chances are much greater than you imagine. He goes on:



Courtesy of *Everyday Mechanics*

What's the Word?

Geniuses can, of course, tell instantly.

"It takes only a few moments to make the test; and it will be a source of great inspiration if you find that you, too, have the essential qualities that made Edison famous and Morgan a byword in the financial world. The great men of history left behind them no cut-and-dried formula, but you will find that they all became famous for certain definable qualities which they possest and took the opportunity of using. Do you have those traits? Here's how to find out.

"Cut out a number of cards the size of a calling card and ask a friend to write a word, one letter on each card. For instance, if the word 'inspiration' is used, you will have eleven cards with one letter on each. These must be shuffled and handed to you. Now, lay the cards in a row so that you can see them all at a glance, as shown in the illustration. If you are already qualified, you will be able to tell the selected word in a moment without re-arranging the cards in their proper order. Perhaps you will have to study a bit; at any rate, on your degree of success depends your standing as a prospective genius.

"This experiment is conducted mentally, and not by a tiresome process of trial and error. 'Something' (we will call it your subconsciousness) flashes the correct word into your mind. How successful are you? Try it again, a number of times. You will improve. When you get so that you can name the word without laboring over each letter, you can be sure that you are a possible genius. If, with practise, you can not do this, and you have to rearrange the cards to make sense out of them, you are lacking in at least one quality that makes a genius.

"Two men are languishing in a prison cell. Both lacked opportunity; one soon became a raving maniac after deliberating on spending the remainder of his life in a dungeon, while the other, in the genius of his inspiration, disregarded his confinement and wrote a volume that startled the world.

"Opportunity, says Genius, is not the requirement for being great. Vitality is. Not necessarily that which produces robust health and muscular energy, but that which gives nervous energy. Lack of both good health and opportunity need not deter you. Poe was neither healthy or afforded with opportunity."

MEN of genius are hard workers; Napoleon and Mozart thought continuously of their work. While attending social affairs Napoleon's mind was on his armies, usually figuring out how he could arrange them into new positions to deceive his opponents. Mozart was continuously composing; while at the opera he could be heard humming new compositions to himself. Also:

"Goethe relates that many times he would retire with some problem on his mind, and that in the middle of the night he would awaken with the remembrance of a dream that solved his problem, and hastily pencil it before it was lost forever.

"Dreams such as these have no apparent relation to fortune-telling. When you go to sleep with a problem on your mind, your subconscious mind is constantly mulling over the difficulty. When it is finally solved, it breaks through into the conscious mind as a dream. Had you been awake, it would have burst into your mind as an 'inspiration.'

"How many times have you solved a difficulty with a 'happy thought'? How did you do it? You thought it over continuously, with no satisfactory result. Suddenly, as by magic, the solution 'popped' into your mind. A 'happy thought' you call it; a happy thought direct from the subconscious mind, and not arrived at directly in your conscious mind. It is the result of deep concentration."

A Floating Power-Plant

THE NEW ENGLAND COAST will shortly have at its disposal a complete power-plant on shipboard. Its ports can be supplied with electric current on short notice whenever there is a shortage.

And this plant requires no heavy foundations for its machinery. There is also plenty of condensing water for its engines, the whole Atlantic being available. Says *The Industrial Bulletin* of Arthur D. Little, Inc. (Cambridge, Mass.):

"The New England Public Service Company has, after an extended investigation, resorted to a novel development. They are converting the 7,000-ton cargo-ship *Jacona* into a floating power-plant of 20,000 kilowatts, capacity, by the installation of all the refinements of the most up-to-date central station power-plants. Altho the company has had this idea under consideration for a period of more than two years, the attention of the general public was first called to a service of this sort during the past year when the airplane-carrier *Lexington* was used for thirty days to boost the power supply of the city of Tacoma, Washington. In this case a severe drought reduced the supply of hydroelectric power available, so that power service was seriously threatened. By special dispensation from the Navy Department, the *Lexington* was docked at Tacoma, and the energy of her turbines was used to supplement that of the city power-plant.

"Altho the investment in the New England floating power-plant will represent over $1,000,000, it is anticipated that it will be available for nearly twice as many hours of service in the course of a year as would any equivalent stationary power-house. In addition, there is a large saving in cost of transmission, since the plant can be located at any convenient harbor along the coast nearest to its main load.

"Whenever there is a shortage of power at any point along the northern New England coast, it will only be necessary to tow the *Jacona* to a suitable berth, make an electrical tie-in to the high-tension system at that point, and provide for the delivery of fuel as required. The vessel carries sufficient evaporative capacity to distil all necessary make-up water for its boilers.

"The fundamental advantages of this floating power-house may be completely summarized in the one word 'flexibility.' The concept is modern in the extreme."

Stonelike Product from Corn-Cobs

MAIZOLITH, a substance hard as stone and stronger than most kinds of wood, is one of the newest products of chemical magic, working on cornfield wastes. Says Science Service's *Daily Science News Bulletin* (Washington):

"It can be made from any part of the corn plant, but most advantageously from corn-cobs. It is one of the things that has been made by the chemists of Iowa State College at Ames and has recently been undergoing tests on a semicommercial scale at the U. S. Bureau of Standards.

"It is prepared by chemically digesting the corn-cobs, reducing them to a uniform jellylike pulp in certain standard paper-mill machinery, and pressing the jelly in a mold. The resulting solid material is a dense, hard, bonelike substance, ranging in color from a golden tan to a deep ebony. It is somewhat stronger than the hardwoods, and is a good electrical insulator. It can be machined and polished into non-metallic gears, washers, panels, and other objects such as are now made from hard rubber and bakelite.

"It is estimated that a commercial plant with a production capacity of five tons per day could manufacture it at a cost of about $240 a ton. The cost might be cut if it is manufactured as a by-product in other cornstalk industries.

"Its trade name, maizolith, Englishes into 'corn-stone.'"

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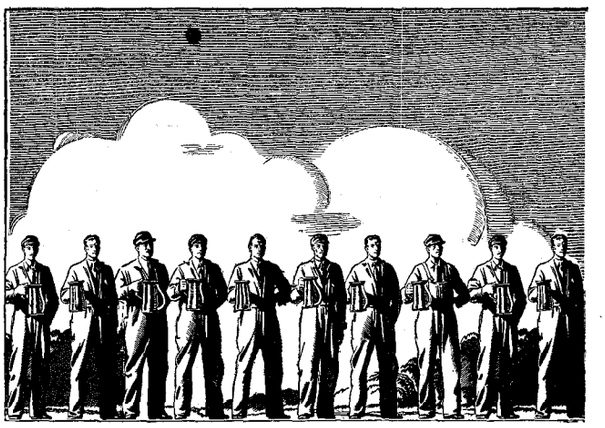
They can't all



HAS anyone ever told you—"This is the best oil for your engine because it was made from such and such crude"? The statement may have been made with sincerity—with conviction.

But someone else says: "No—*this* is the best oil for your engine"—and you find that he is talking about a *different* oil made from the *same* crude. Then another—because it, too, was made from the same crude!

It would be quite natural if you asked yourself, "Are all these oils *different?* If they are, then how can all these people be right?"

Yes, they may be different—widely different! So they *can't* all be right.

Not long ago a large chemical company analyzed 4 motor oils made from the same crude. In one important element alone the variation among these oils ranged from 31% to 63%!

"How can such differences creep in?" you may wonder.

The differences are caused by the *manufacturing processes.* Scientists versed in modern chemical knowledge of oil will tell you—"Manufacturing—

TWO OILS MAY LOOK ALIKE

but in your engine they may give widely different results. In the oil you buy your engine needs all these properties in correct proportions:

Carbon control—to keep down hard carbon deposits.

Heat resistance—makes your oil *last* longer.

Oily character—protects moving parts from wear.

Oxidation control—gumming and sticking of exhaust valves, and clogging of passages in oil system.

Your Mobiloil dealer cordially invites you to hear the famous Mobiloil Concerts each Wednesday evening . . . . WEAF and 29 associated N. B. C. stations.

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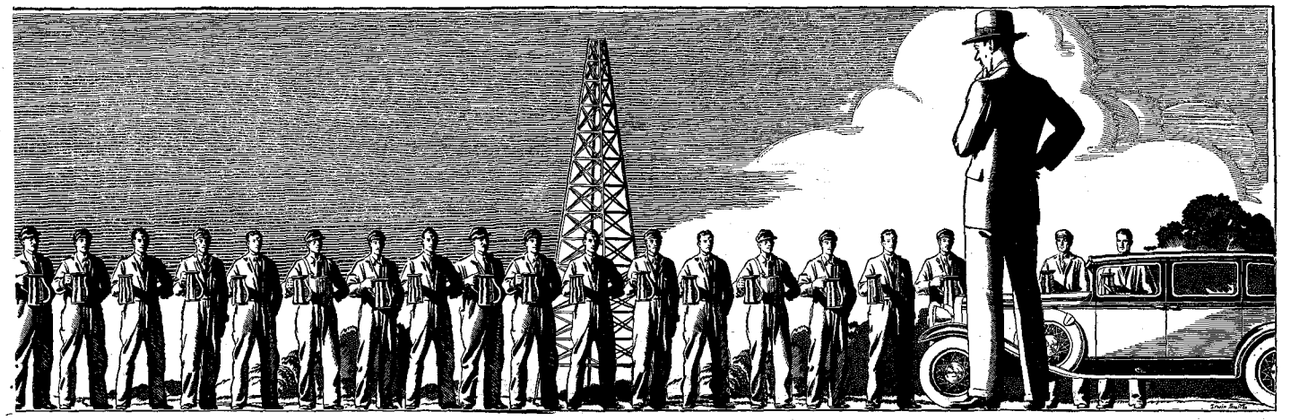
be right!



not crude—controls oil quality. Motor oil is made —not found."

In the making of Mobiloil, these differences that always occur when a crude is refined, are actually turned to advantages.

MANUFACTURING CONTROLS QUALITY

By its knowledge of oil chemistry and by its unrivalled knowledge of your engine, the Mobiloil technical staff *controls* each manufacturing step.

Therefore, into the grade of Mobiloil recommended for your car goes the correct proportion of the properties that result in: *carbon control, oxidation control, heat resistance* and *oily character* and give longer wear. Exhaustive tests check each manufacturing operation, so that when you buy the finished Mobiloil you *know* that every drop of it has been proportioned with scientific accuracy to fit your engine.

Fifteen seconds—one quick glance at the chart at the right—and you will find the grade of Mobiloil your car needs now,

VACUUM OIL COMPANY

LOOK FOR THIS SIGN

Make this Chart your Guide

This abbreviated chart shows the correct grade of Gargoyle Mobiloil for most passenger cars. You will find the complete Mobiloil Chart at your Mobiloil dealer's.

NAMES OF PASSENGER CARS	1930 Engine		1929 Engine		1928 Engine		1927 Engine	
	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter
Auburn 6-85	AF	Arc.	..	....	....	....	....	....
" 6-66A, 6-80, 76	....	..	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
" *other models*	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Buick	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Cadillac	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Chandler	....	....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Chevrolet	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Chrysler 70, 77	BB	Arc.	....	....	....	....	A	Arc.
" Imperial	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
" *other models*	AF	Arc.	AF	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Dodge Bros.	AF	Arc.	AF	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Durant 614	AF	Arc.	....	....	....	....	....	....
" *other models*	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	....	....
Elcar 6-70, 75	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
" *other models*	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Erskine	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Essex	AF	Arc.	AF	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Ford Model A	AF	Arc.	AF	Arc.	AF	Arc.	....	....
" Model T	....	....	....	....	....	....	E	E
Franklin	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Gardner 6-cyl. 136	AF	Arc.	....	....	....	....	....	....
" 8-cyl.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Graham and Graham-Paige	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	....	....
Hudson	AF	Arc.	AF	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Hupmobile	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
LaSalle	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Lincoln	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Marmon Big 8, 75, 8-79	BB	Arc.	....	....	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
" *other models*	AF	Arc.	AF	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Moon 6-72	....	....	AF	Arc.	A	Arc.	....	....
" 8-80	....	....	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	....	....
" *other models*	....	....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Nash Twin Ig. 8, 490, Adv. 6, Sp. 6, Twin Ig. 6	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Nash (*other models*)	AF	Arc.	AF	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Oakland	BB	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Oldsmobile	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Packard	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Peerless 61, 81	....	....	AF	Arc.	....	....	....	....
" 60, 69, 80	....	....	....	....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
" *other models*	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Plymouth	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	....	....	....	....
Pontiac	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Reo (*all models*)	AF	Arc.	AF	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Studebaker Com'der 8	AF	Arc.	AF	Arc.	....	....	....	....
" President 8	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	....	....
" *other models*	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Whippet	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Willys-Knight	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Windsor 6-69, 6-72, 6-75	AF	Arc.	AF	Arc.	....	....	....	....
" *other models*	BB	Arc	BB	Arc.	....	....	....	....

Mobiloil

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The Tree-Climbing Goats of Morocco

EVERYBODY EXPECTS MONKEY-SHINES from Billy and Nanny—to a certain extent.

Tin cans and overshoes, rusty nails and broken crockery—what won't a goat eat!

In zoological folk-lore, that is. As a matter of stern fact, probably few goats have been actually seen partaking of any such ascetic fare.

But if a goat will eat almost anything—poison ivy, for instance—will it also go almost any place to eat it?

Have you, for example, ever seen goats perform such monkey-shines as climbing into the tree tops for their dinner?

Probably not. Probably the giddy goats, if any, on your visiting list, are not giddy enough to mistake themselves for monkeys.

But if you go to Morocco and wander about in the vicinity of Mogador and Agadir, you can see this very sight—goats grazing in the tops of argan-trees.

David Fairchild, a botanist of note, who has recently returned from wandering through the East Indies, Sumatra, Ceylon, Java, and Morocco, in search of rare *flora*, describes the sight in "Exploring for Plants" (Macmillan). We read:

> There is an amazing variety in the forms of the trees; there were areas where they looked as dwarfed as the juniper of the rocky coast of Nova Scotia, due in part at least to the herds of goat and sheep that have browsed on them through the centuries.
>
> In other places they seem to have escaped browsing only to be blown into strange one-sided shapes by the winds that sweep in from the Atlantic. We passed under one with so large a trunk that three of us could scarcely encircle it with our arms. Some had spreading crowns and others narrow ones. Some branched almost at the ground and others had a distinct trunk.
>
> I even found one with a weeping habit of growth. All had, of course, grown from seeds and it seemed to be a variable species, with ample provision for cross pollination.
>
> Many of them that had succeeded in growing into trees were in the centers of wide bushes, where the animals could not get at them without being severely scratched by the sharp spines which everywhere cover the argan.
>
> Everywhere they had been browsed upon, even the donkeys stop and pick the leaves from the under branches above their heads. Goats will, of course, eat almost any shrub, and I was not surprized that they found even the tender young spines good to eat.

DR. FAIRCHILD had heard that goats go up into the branches of this tree to browse, but he admits that the sight surprized him. He tells us:

> I recalled a woodcut published by Sir Joseph Hooker in his "Journal of a Tour in Morocco," depicting three goats in the branches of an argan-tree.
>
> It is one of the twelve woodcuts illustrating the book, but the picture in my copy was so badly printed that only the lowest goat was easily observable, and Sir Joseph treated the matter so casually that I was quite unprepared for the surprize which came with a sharp turn in the road when we saw across the valley two argan-trees full of goats.
>
> One of these happened to be a piebald goat, and stood out in strong contrast with the dark green vegetation of the tree.
>
> Catching up my camera, I ran across to see these arboreal animals.
>
> I reached the tree and stood under it, snapping my camera as fast as I could, and standing almost directly under some of them so that I could get their silhouettes against the sky.
>
> They were not aware of my presence for some minutes, and I had time to study the method by which they climbed into the topmost branches, cropping right and left at their leisure.
>
> A close examination of the larger branches of the tree showed that the upper sides had been flattened into actual runways by the sharp hoofs of many generations of animals traveling up and down on them. They were even broad enough to allow a goat to spring from one branch to the other and stand there on its hind feet while it browsed.
>
> When the animals saw me, they scampered down the tree trunks and away across the valley.
>
> We met this same herd of goats at the same spot on our return from Agadir, and I persuaded the goatherd to show us how he got them to feed on any particular tree.
>
> First he struck with his staff on the tree, making quite a noise to attract their attention.
>
> Then he threw rocks up into it which broke off small twigs as they tore through the dense branches, and when the goats saw these green bits on the ground they lost no time in jumping and scrambling up into the tree to browse.

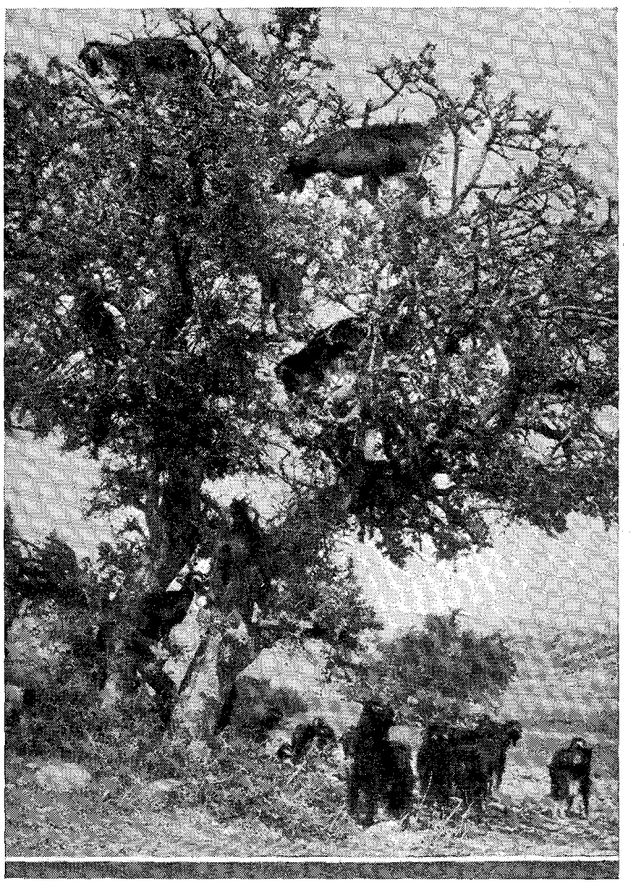

Illustration from "Exploring for Plants" (Macmillan, New York)

"Come On Up, the Grazing's Fine!"

Many generations of goats have browsed thus in this tree, making runways of the upper surfaces of the branches.

It is a half-century since Sir Joseph Hooker described this scene, and in the preface to his "Journal," he remarks, "up to the time of this visit, the Great Atlas was little better known to geographers than it was in the time of Strabo and Pliny," and "from a comparison with the accounts of early travelers no notable change is apparent during the last two centuries," so I am conscious that I am giving an account of something pretty old.

In spite of this I do not always find it easy to get people to believe my story until I show them my photographs.

The goat has been a domesticated animal and an associate of man since the Stone Age, and as there are many indications that the Berbers, whose origin is still a matter of mystery, may be a very ancient people, the idea is at least permissible that this practise of herding the goats in the argan trees may be one of the most ancient of customs.

THE argan-tree bears a not unattractive fruit, and Dr. Fairchild, when he first came upon it, tasted it with high hopes. But the result, it would seem from his account, almost convinced him of the truth of the old belief that the goat will eat anything.

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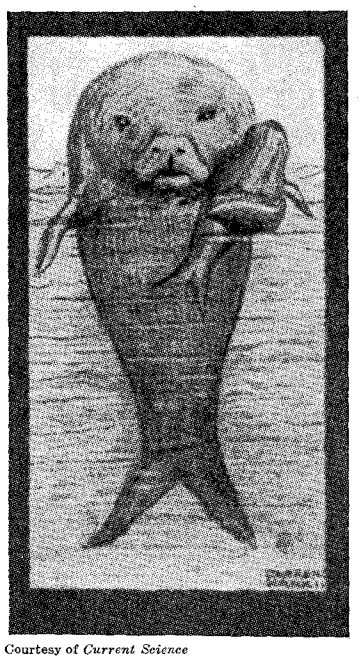
Tritons and Sirens

THESE mythological creatures were not entirely imaginary. They still exist—at least, the creatures that live suggested them to the active imagination of the ancients.

What they really were, and are, is told in an article on the subject contributed to *Current Science* (Columbus, Ohio). Says the writer:

Sailors of ancient times, particularly those who cruised through the tepid waves



Courtesy of *Current Science*

The Sad Truth About Sirens

They're loving, but nothing to leave home for, and they're clammy cousins of the elephant.

of the Red Sea, or hugged the shores of the Indian Ocean, witnessed at times some strange sights upon the waters. Out of the billows a sleek form would arise, with rounded head and bright eyes.

Smaller forms—one or two—would also emerge, and be quickly embraced by a strong tho awkward arm. With their heads held well above water, these lesser creatures would push soft noses against the breast of the protecting one, and there find nourishment.

No sailor, reverently remembering his mother, could fail to mark with astonishment the resemblance to his own hunger of babyhood, and its natural method of satisfaction. No wonder that strange legends of sea-mothers and their infants became the topics of sailors' tales. No wonder that imagination, in due time, thought of these little ones, cradled in the waves, as growing to half-human creatures of uncanny powers.

IT made the stories better, too, the writer suggests, to picture some of them as of marvelous beauty, and others as of ferocious strength. But, as a matter of plain fact:

These creatures are dugongs. They belong to a zoological family known as the Sirenians—do you understand the reason for this name? They are big—eight to fifteen feet in length; they are practically hairless, except for whiskers on their upper lip. Their skin is at least an inch thick.

Once—would you believe it!—they had

Bottled *Cleanliness* for your mouth and throat

Every ruby-colored drop of Lavoris that goes into your mouth straightway busies itself on a unique and mighty cleansing task.

As you swirl the fresh and fragrant liquid about your teeth and gums and throat, this skilled cleaning army is at work. It coagulates and washes away the sticky film that clings to teeth and tissues. With this film come the hordes of snugly-harbored germs. It sweeps up the bits of food, the particles of oral waste.

And, when you expel this rinse—out they go! All the debris that is opposed to cleanliness, countless bacteria that endanger health. Your mouth and throat feel fresh and clean. They feel exhilarated, too, because Lavoris stimulates and heals as it cleans.

Use Lavoris, twice a day, to sweep clean your mouth and throat and for the protection it gives against disease.

LAVORIS CHEMICAL COMPANY, Minneapolis - Toronto

To Members of the Dental and Medical Professions:

We print no extravagant or unwarranted claims for Lavoris, but we do print the formula on the label of every bottle, that you may be the judge as to the true therapeutic value of this particular zinc chloride combination and its effectiveness in combating oral sepsis.

DO AS YOUR DENTIST TELLS YOU

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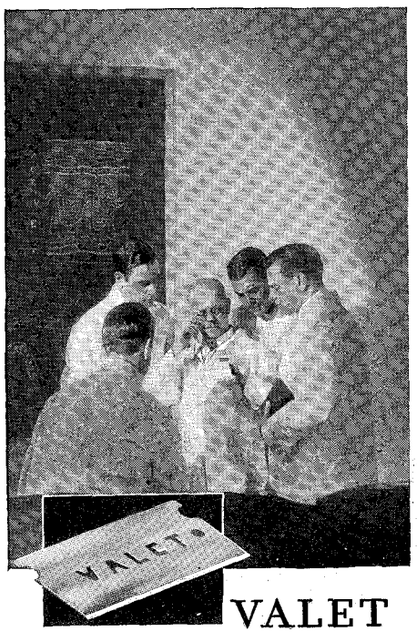
MEN WHO KNOW STEEL PREFER THE VALET
—MEN WHO KNOW FACES PRESCRIBE IT



VALET
wins high honors with
Louisville Senior Medics

TESTED in classroom and dormitory—voted first in quality and performance—the new Valet blade won and holds the preference of dermatologists graduated this year by the University of Louisville.

These senior medics—thirteen in a class of fourteen members—use the new Valet themselves—declare it unsurpassed for shaving comfort. Here's their statement signed on the eve of graduation!

"The superior grinding and honing of the Valet blade are manifest in a smooth shave—and a decided tendency to eliminate skin irritation and infection."

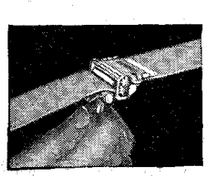
Valet's advanced precision methods finish triple-hardened steel to a micro-perfect edge of marvelous keenness. Magnetic testing and magnifying mirror inspection positively assure the utmost uniformity.

The new Valet blade is made exclusively for the Valet AutoStrop Razor—the only razor that does not require removal of the blade for stropping, shaving or cleaning, and holds the edge at a friendly angle.

Keep your face young—your skin clear. Shave with this amazingly keen blade—preferred by men who know steel and prescribed by those who know faces.

AUTOSTROP SAFETY RAZOR CO., INC.
656 First Ave., New York
Also Toronto, London, Paris, Milan, Rio de Janeiro

The new blade can be identified by the word "Valet" cut through the steel.



The NEW VALET
Auto-Strop BLADE

BEASTS, BIRDS AND TREES

Continued

four legs, and walked upon the ground. The discovery of fossil skeletons of dugongs (a Malay word) proves this fact; a strong, wide pelvis and definite leg bones. Their life in those ancient days was spent in swamps and along shallow shores; their food—even as to-day—being juicy water plants. They lazily wallowed in the water; hind legs were not used, and to-day the species has only a few soft, small bones representing vestigial hips and legs. From the outside only a broad tail appears, which is set horizontally like the tail of a whale, instead of vertically like that of a fish.

The front legs have developed into strong fins. Given time, nature adjusts the physique of a creature to its needs; what it does not use, nature takes away. This is one of the most fundamental laws of biology, and is called "the adaptation of parts."

Another member of the Sirenian family is the manatee, named for its handlike flippers (Latin, *manus*, "hand"). These are found in the broad, deep rivers under the equator. They differ from the dugong in many small particulars, as having a rounded tail instead of one that is slightly forked.

You would never guess the closest relatives of the dugong and manatee among the more familiar animals of earth! Whales? No. Seals? No. Cows? No. Their nearest kin are elephants! Their tusks, their thick furless skin, their food habits, point out this association, and there are countless additional proofs in connection with the structure of bones, organs, and tissues that tell a straight story to the inquiring biologist.

How Locust Plagues Visit Bible Lands To-day

DARKENING the sun, they come with a drone of wings that is heard with terror before the insects themselves are seen.

Such a plague is menacing Egypt and the Holy Land to-day, just as in the days of Pharaoh, and the British Parliament has been asked to appropriate $3,000,000 to aid in checking the destruction.

Devout observers of this example of history repeating itself are turning to their Old Testaments and reading:

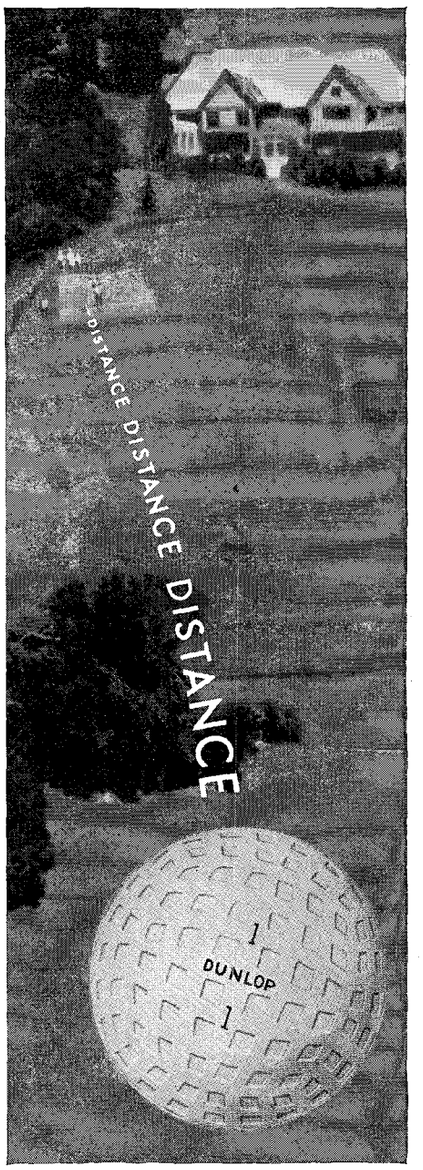
"And Moses stretched forth his rod over the land of Egypt, and the Lord brought an east wind upon the land all that day and all that night; and when it was morning the east wind brought the locusts.

"And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt, and rested in all the coasts of Egypt: very grievous were they; before them there were no such locusts as they, neither after them shall be such.

"For they covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened; and they did eat every herb of the land, and and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left, and there remained not any green thing in the trees, or in the herbs of the field, through all the land of Egypt."

SOME picturesque details of to-day's plague have been collected by a writer in the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, who tells us:

Already certain sections resemble armed



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camps as the natives prepare to combat this crawling, flying, hopping blight.

Special machines and chemicals as well as more primitive means are being used, according to word from the infested areas.

From time immemorial the locust plague has been a scourge of mankind.

These insects, of various species, infest nearly the entire world.

They are found in this country, in South America, in Europe, and Asia.

But it is in Egypt and around Jerusalem, in the Holy Land, that the terrible destruction of the locust plague has most often been worked.

ONE of the worst plagues in recent years occurred in 1915 in Syria and Palestine, says this account, continuing:

They settled in the largest numbers at Bethlehem, where the natives killed tons of them for the small bonus offered by the Government.

But they could make no real impression upon the millions of swarming insects.

These innumerable hosts at once prepared for the destruction that was to follow by depositing their eggs in the ground. It is estimated that from a space thirty-nine inches square some 60,000 locusts can emerge.

AN eye-witness who described the plague around Jerusalem at that time is quoted thus by the writer:

One evening it was heard that the locusts had already reached the German colony and the railroad station, and as we went out the next day to see them, scarcely had our carriage swung around from the Jaffa Gate than we found the white road already black with them.

Ever in the same direction they pushed up the "Western Hill," still commonly called Zion, even entering the houses about the "Tomb of David."

The roads now became so slippery from the masses of the little, greasy bodies crushed beneath the horses' hoofs that the horses could scarcely keep a footing.

While still in the first or larva stage, they seemed to hop much like fleas, so that when anything neared their thickened masses, it seemed as if the entire surface of the ground moved, producing a most curious effect upon one's vision and causing dizziness, which in some was so severe as to produce a sensation not unlike seasickness.

AND *The Post-Dispatch* concludes the account thus:

They stript whole areas absolutely bare, despite the most determined efforts of the Government.

The olive groves were so completely stript that there was scarcely enough oil for the holy lamps.

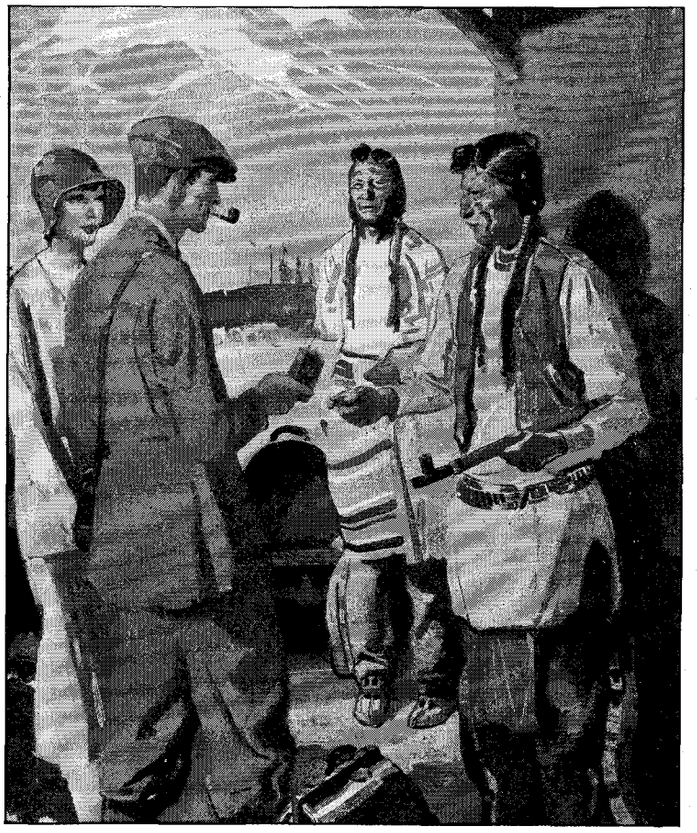
The damage done was incalculable.

Since that time methods of fighting the locust plague have greatly improved, but nevertheless all of Egypt is alarmed, according to Associated Press reports.

Superstitious fears are being revived, fears that date back to Biblical times.

Many of the natives are inclined to regard the coming of the insect swarms fatalistically, as a decree which it is useless to dispute.

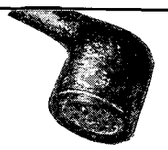
But scientists are on the ground, English and American, and this time man may win the battle of the locusts, after so many centuries of defeat.



"For thou hast magic beyond wine
to unlock natures each to each."
—J. R. Lowell

Yes, all men are brothers

—at the first wholesome puff!



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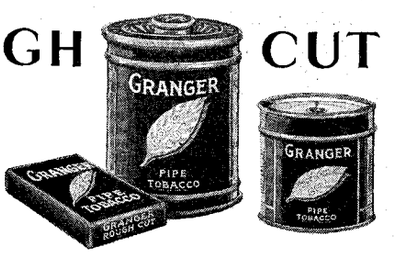

A COOLER SMOKE AND A DRIER PIPE

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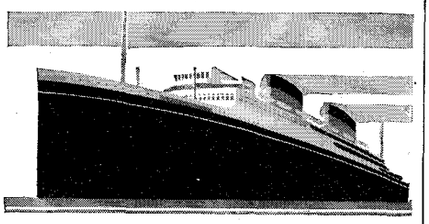
TRAVELERS—AHOY!



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New Light on the Bee

BEES can distinguish colors and smells, and they communicate with each other by dancing.

These familiar insects have now been studied for centuries, and one would think that new facts about them would be hard to discover. But recent researches and discoveries by Professor von Frisch, director of the Zoological Institute of the University of Munich, who is now visiting this country, have led to a considerable upward revision of the esteem in which the bee has long been held. Says Alastair Murray, in an article contributed to the New York *Times:*

His research into the sense of smell in bees led, among other results, to the clearing up of some of the mysteries of communication among insects.

A well-known experiment establishes the bee's ability to distinguish between colors. A blue card is placed on the table and surrounded by cards of all shades, from white to black. Each card carries a glass dish, but only that on the blue card contains food. The bees coming to the table fly to the blue card, carry some of the sugar-water to the hive, and return for more. After each trip, the relative position of the cards should be changed.

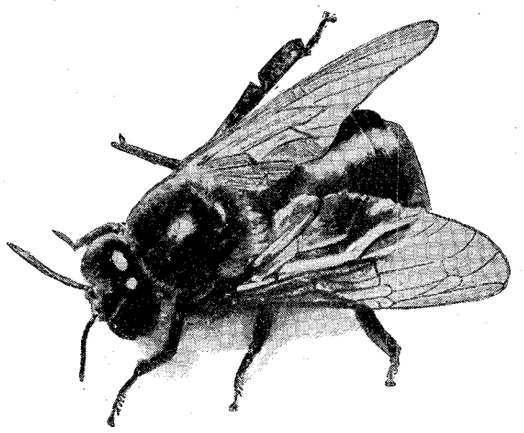
After a sufficient time has elapsed, the series of cards and dishes is replaced by a clean series of cards, among which a blue card carrying an empty container is placed at random. When the bees return to fetch more food, they alight without hesitation on the blue card. They have a definite color sense.

Professor von Frisch has also trained bees to other colors—orange, yellow, green, violet, and purple; but bees trained to red seem confused when confronted with other dark shades. The bee eye can not segregate red from other dark colors. Red is of comparatively frequent occurrence in America, but only in bird-blossoms—the bird eye is very sensitive to red. In Europe, red-flowered plants are fertilized almost exclusively by butterflies, the only insects which are not red-blind.

The professor found that he could train the bees to scent just as they had been trained to color. He further discovered that these insects are very fastidious about the sweetness of their food. If a solution contains 20 per cent. sugar, they drink it; if it has only 10 per cent., some take it, and others would rather not. The nectar of bee blossoms has a high sugar content, about 40 per cent. Von Frisch also determined that bees can distinguish the same properties as we can, such as sweet, bitter, sour, and salty. On the other hand, many sugars which are very sweet to us are not sweet to the insects, and they can not taste saccharin at all.

THAT bees have a means of communication seemed easy to deduce. When Professor von Frisch needs bees for experimental purposes, he puts out some sheets of paper coated with honey. He may have to wait hours or days for a single bee to come, but as soon as one bee has found the feeding-place, hundreds may appear within a short time, all from the same hive. The discoverer must have told the others; but how? We read further:

In order to clear up the mystery, von Frisch had to construct special observation hives, with glass windows and a new arrangement of the combs which enabled him to watch the bees. Every bee had to be numbered, and von Frisch managed to devise a handy code by painting the bees in five colors. Bees were numbered up to 599, and von Frisch could readily distinguish them while in flight.



He Speaks the Language of the Dance

In the world of bees, "every little movement has a meaning all its own." The picture is greatly enlarged.

The first bee to discover honey was marked, and observed upon its return to the hive. First it delivered the provender to the other bees in the hive. Then it began to dance. For one full minute it twisted itself to right and left alternately, then repeated the dance equally vigorously on another spot. The dance ended as suddenly as it had begun; the dancing bee hurried to the exit and returned to the feeding-place.

The other bees on the wax comb were noticed to be very much excited by this dance. They tript behind the dancer and closely followed its every twist and turn, keeping their antennæ as close to the dancer's body as possible and evincing great interest. One by one they turned away, cleaned their wings and antennæ, and left the hive.

Soon afterward these bees also appeared at the feeding-place; upon returning again to the hive they danced in their turn, and soon a veritable swarm appeared for honey. Obviously the first bee danced a message to the others, but what puzzled the investigator was that the new bees did not follow the discoverer back to the feeding-place but went there quite independently.

"I could not understand it," Professor von Frisch told me. "But the following experiment brought some light on the subject. We put glass dishes with food down in the meadow north, south, east, and west of the hive. Bees were fed at the west point. After their dance in the hive, the

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new bees were perceived not to fly directly to the west dish; they flew around, obviously seeking for the food, and many settled at the other three points. They found the dishes a few minutes after the dance had been performed; but if there is no dancing in the hive the dishes may not be visited for many days.

"I made experiments to find out over what range the system of communications could operate, and, in my final experiments, bees discovered a dish of honey placed at a distance of nearly a mile from the hive four hours after it had been reported by the numbered bees. They must have searched every inch of ground in their whole field of flight.

"When we made the conditions more natural, we found ourselves faced with a new riddle. We fed the bees on cyclamen, into whose flowers we dropt sugar-water. This time, the new bees flew out—seeking something definite. In the vicinity we had placed two dishes with phlox and cyclamen on the ground, but the bees were not interested in the phlox. They wanted only cyclamen. Then we substituted phlox for cyclamen at the feeding-place, having taken the precaution to fill the blossoms with sugar-water. After five or ten minutes bees were to be observed looking through the neighboring gardens for phlox blossoms—a strange sight for those who know that phlox yields no honey, and is, therefore, never visited by bees in normal circumstances."

How Plants See Without Eyes

PLANTS have no eyes, yet they can distinguish between different colors, and, strange to say, they indicate their choice by bending toward the radiation that they find hardest on their growth.

This preference is being explored at the Smithsonian Institution, in Washington, as a part of a program of research on the influence of radiation on living things. Says *Science News Letter*, a Science Service publication (Washington, D. C.):

The group led by Dr. F. S. Brackett and Dr. E. S. Johnston have arranged a dark chamber with a lamp at either end, its light passing through a color screen.

A young plant is placed between the two, at a point where the energy of the opposing light-beams has been instrumentally determined as being exactly equal.

The plant thus finds itself in the position of the donkey exactly midway between two haystacks, which medieval philosophers are said to have argued about.

Which will it choose?

The way out of the dilemma is as tho the donkey had found himself between a stack of timothy hay and one of clover.

All kinds of visible lights seem to have a retarding effect on plant growth, but some have more than others; and the plant grows less on the side exposed to the more growth-retarding of the two beams, and therefore grows toward it, being pushed over by its more rapidly growing side.

Red light and the short-wave infra-red, the Smithsonian experiments have shown, have very little effect on growth.

Yellow light still has little effect, tho more than red.

But the green sector of the spectrum has a powerful influence, and the blue-violet group of wave-lengths are stronger still in causing growing plant-tips to bend.

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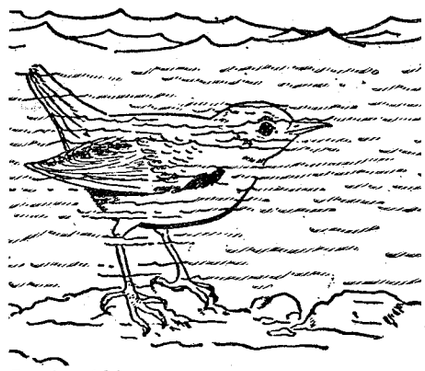
BEASTS, BIRDS AND TREES

Continued

Flying Under Water

THE bird called in our West the "dipper," and in England the "water-ouzel," both walks and flies, or perhaps "swims" with its wings, under water.

How it does this is explained in *Current Science* (Columbus, Ohio) by a writer who tells us how the bird manages to keep



From *Current Science*

The "Submarine Bird"

down, tho it is much lighter than water, how it stays dry, and how it keeps its eyes open. We read in substance:

Many birds are swimmers, and some are divers. There is at least one that can actually walk around on the bottom of a pool of water, and swim for many yards under the surface. This is the water-ouzel—one of the most unique of all the feathered creatures in name, home, and habits.

The strict scientific name for the ouzel is *cinclus*, which is the Greek for "wagtail."

Ouzel is an ancient Anglo-Saxon name for this bird. The "dipper," the name generally used in this country, is really appropriate.

Water-ouzels—"dippers"—live in both the old world and the new. In the United States they are in the western mountains, but not the eastern. It is not a migrating bird, and only ice so thick as to make diving impossible will cause a journey southward.

Those who have watched the bird are amazed at two things—the length of time it will stay under the surface of a pool, walking around; and the peculiar manner in which it crosses deeper portions of the pool, propelling itself by means of wing movements that all observers describe as "flying under water." Dr. John Davy, an Englishman, determined that it is hardly three-fourths as heavy as water. It requires real force to keep such a corklike body down, and the flapping of the wings during the under-water journey are for the same purpose as the strokes of a human diver.

How can the warm, active bird endure the icy chill of mountain waters? Nature has provided it, as with other birds that are much in the water, with an extra suit of thick down underneath the true feathers. Many furry creatures have a similar suit of fine hair underneath their coarser fur. This down is kept oily by means of a gland under the bird's tail. When beneath the water no dampness can penetrate to the skin, and, as seen from above, the bird seems to be wrapt in a silvery gauze, which is a thin film of air surrounding the body. The writer goes on:

Practically every creature that spends time in both air and water has three eyelids. Two of them are the standard upper and lower lids; the third is a translucent, partially cloudy, membrane that may slide over the front of the eye for its protection, yet allow a certain amount of light to penetrate. This is called the *nictitating* (Latin, "winking") membrane. In many birds, as the eagle, this third eyelid moves straight across from the inner to the outer corner of the eye; in others the movement is oblique (slanting). Alligators possess this same membrane so that they may open their eyes in water; owls have it for the protection of their unusually large eyes from strong daylight.

Friend Cricket Does a Talkie

MR. GRYLLUS, the common cricket, has got into the talkies—for scientific purposes, not for dramatic exhibition.

The apparatus called the movietone, used in making talking-pictures, has been utilized by Frank E. Lutz and W. R. Hicks, of the American Museum of Natural History, to analyze and study the cricket's chirp. They describe their experiments and give their conclusions in *American Museum Novitates* (New York), writing in part as follows:

In recent years a new method of recording and reproducing sound has been devised, known as the Movietone System. It consists essentially of a microphone, which transforms sound-waves into electrical energy, and amplifiers to increase the feeble currents to values sufficient to cause a glow-tube to flicker in exact correspondence with the frequency and intensity of the sound. This method of sound-recording is excellent for frequencies within the normal audible range. For the recording of very shrill sounds at or beyond upper range of the human ear, the film would have to be run faster than usual.

Other practical limitations, such as slit-construction and adjustment, film emulsion characteristics, and so on, combine to fix a maximum of about 8,000 cycles for practical sound-recording by this method.

The cricket whose chirp was to be recorded was put into a small cage fitted with a front of high-quality optical glass.

The chirping, as we hear it, seems to be a succession of shrill, slightly trilling notes, lasting for about a tenth of a second, and separated by pauses of about half a second, the number of notes per minute depending, within limits, on the temperature. An interesting thing which an examination of this movietone showed at once, is that each of what we hear as continuous sounds is made up of from two to four separate "pulses" with intervals of quiet.

Apparently each of these pulses is due to a single scraping of the wings, the pauses between them representing the time required by the cricket for changing the direction of wing movement or for getting back to the starting-point. The fact that there is no record of sound between the pulses indicates that the wings do not vibrate after the rubbing stops, or that, if vibrations do continue, either the amplitude is

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not sufficient to affect the microphone, or they are vibrating at a frequency above about 8,000 cycles per second.

After considerable further discussion of detail, the experimenters record their final conclusions as follows:

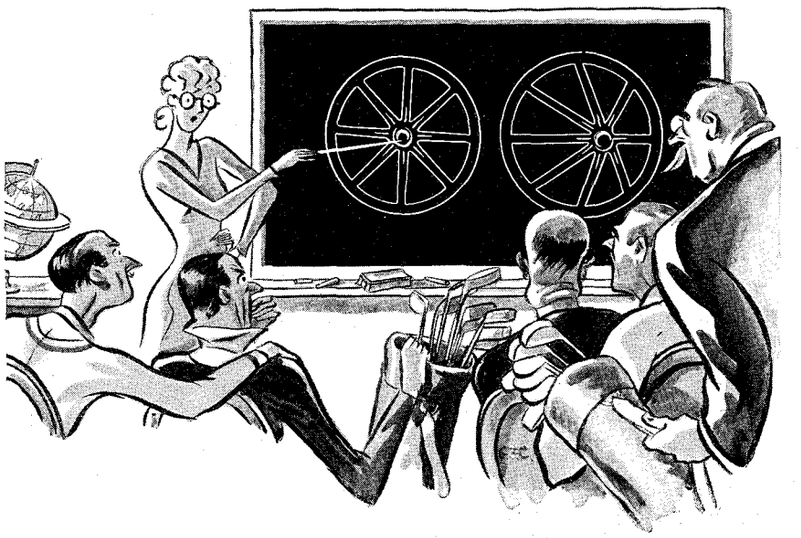
On the whole, while freely admitting that more data are to be desired, it seems fairly certain that crickets chirp by moving the wings in either direction, that each principal air-wave is caused by the "fanning" of the wing as a tooth goes over the scraper, and that the pitch of the sound is a direct function of the number of teeth scraped per second. If this be true, it might be expected that differing physiological and psychological states of the cricket would alter the pitch of its chirp.

Since the speed of such insect movements as have been studied has been found to be, within limits, a function of temperature, the chirping would, presumably, be shriller at high than at low temperatures. This is very roughly confirmed by observations in the field. Those of us who have reared many crickets think that we can tell by intangible differences, possibly pitch, in their chirping "whether they are courting females, defying other males, or just passing the time," but here again, we have no definite data. However, the present movietone record shows, out of the several hundred examined with this in mind, two successive chirps that were noticeably different from the rather monotonous remainder.

What excited this cricket so that it chirped thus shrilly, we do not know. Both before and after this it chirped normally, but it showed that crickets can change the pitch of their chirping.

If the fundamental pitch of a chirp is only a matter of fanning the air by the whole wing, of what use is the "drum-head," supposed to increase the efficiency of the wing as a sound-producing organ? One thing that this drum-head probably does is to add to the sound-waves which we hear when a cricket chirps other notes of exceedingly high pitch and low amplitude, which affect neither our ears nor the movietone film. It is made up of two small membranes supported by continuous rigid rims and, so, almost certainly these membranes have natural periodicities of vibration. If they are set vibrating by the rapid shaking of the whole wing, it is quite possible that they may continue to vibrate in their natural periods even after the wing as a whole has stopt. If that be their only function it would imply either that the crickets can hear sounds far shriller and of much less amplitude than those recorded in the present experiments, or that, the crickets not hearing them, even this function of the drum-head has no biological value.

It would be exceedingly interesting to determine whether there are, in fact, these supplementary components in the cricket's chirp, also what, if any, harmonics of the fundamental pitch there are. Furthermore, it would be of interest to get for comparison with the present record accurate data concerning the sounds made in a similar fashion by such insects as the katydid, and also concerning sounds made in quite different ways by such insects as short-horned grasshoppers, cicadas, certain beetles, mosquitoes, and so on. There have arisen among insects very diverse methods of making sounds. Are all equally efficient, and do they serve a really important purpose in the lives of the insects? If not, why have they developed, and how?



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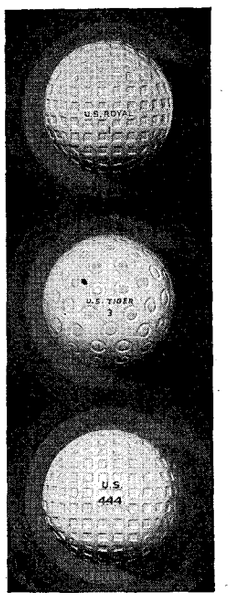

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Where Business Stands at Mid-Year

THAT MID-YEAR PAUSE—vacations, semi-annual reports, end of governmental fiscal year, July dividend payments, and all the rest—gives an opportunity to look backward on the first half of the year, forward on the second. And the economic, statistical, and financial wizards, experts, wiseacres, and figurers are pausing and looking and listening and, in some cases at least, drawing a few conclusions.

Depression and optimism are strangely mingled; which would seem to be explained by the fact that while July reports are far from cheering, there appear to be many evidences that the bottom has been reached, and that better times are just ahead.

Here is the National City Bank of New York, for instance, alluding to the "decided deepening of the feeling of discouragement about business," and the Guaranty Trust Company of New York finding nothing in recent developments that will brighten the outlook. Not so cheerful!

But—here comes no less a statistical authority than Col. Leonard P. Ayres making the observation: "The turn of the year marked the turn of business downward in 1929, and it may well be that the turn of the year in 1930 will closely coincide with the turn of business upward." *The Business Week* sees plenty of evidence the tide is turning with July. Comes *The Manufacturers' Record* of Baltimore with the categoricalassertion: "The turn of the mid-year is a starting point for an upward swing of business." We might quote such remarks almost indefinitely.

JULY 1929
" WE ARE IN A NEW ERA! PROSPERITY IS HERE TO STAY! THERE ISN'T A CLOUD ON THE HORIZON! "
ELEVATOR
STOCK MARKET
JULY 1930
" THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK IS BAD. UNEMPLOYMENT IS INCREASING. I CAN'T SEE ANY LIGHT AHEAD "
ELEVATOR

We now know that he was completely mistaken last year

Reg. U. S. Patent Office. Copyrighted, 1930, by the Chicago *Tribune*

—And before long we'll find that he is mistaken now.

Is He Any Better as a Prophet Now Than He Was Then?

—McCutcheon in the Chicago "Tribune."

July did open gloomily enough, in the opinion of a number of editors, with a business survey made public by Julius H. Barnes, Chairman of the National Business Survey Conference, who let his "factual reports" speak for themselves.

And they spoke a rather sad story, comments the New York *Times:* "In almost every branch of constructive work, manufacture, mining and transportation, percentages of decline are noted, and the seasonal gains which were counted upon have not been realized." And naturally, a writer in the Communist *Daily Worker*, wishfully thinking that American capitalism is going to the dogs, talks much of what he describes as a "protracted and extended sharpening of the cyclical and post-war crisis."

BUSINESS "sparring with depression," is said by the Associated Press, as quoted in the Seattle *Business Chronicle*, "to have won a draw in the round just finished—the second quarter of 1930." Now that the third round is started, "business may be expected to let depression wear itself out," which, according to this Seattle weekly, is just the Associated Press writer's way of saying "that while business may not show great strength, depression may start waning." Here's the way the investment house of Dominick and Dominick reconciles some of these conflicting view-points:

The first half of the critical year 1930 is over, and there are as yet no significant evidences of a revival of trade and industry.

It is apparent, however, that readjustments made necessary by the abnormal conditions of the past few years are proceeding toward fruition, and solid foundations for a resumption of business activity are being laid.

AFTER all, while pessimism has been in the saddle, it may well be possible, the Cleveland Trust Company's *Trade Winds* observes, "that the present pessimism is no better grounded in fact than with the optimism of a year ago, and that at this very time, when confidence appears at its lowest ebb, we may actually be passing through the opening phase of a long period of increasing business prosperity."

Maybe "business needs a dose of psychological castor-oil more than anything else, suggests Glenn Griswold in the Chicago *Journal of Commerce*, and almost any number of papers are prepared to argue cheerfully that business is only bad as compared with the super-boom year of 1929. Comes this reminder from *The American Bankers' Association Journal:*

Throughout the country at large, the population is going along with its work, its recreation, its home life, pretty much the same as was done last year and is likely a year hence.

Many business men might notice that their trade was not quite so good this year as last, but would not be aware that a "depression" existed, if they did not read about it continually in news from New York, or hear such wailings from their friends who had thought that in stock speculating they had discovered the royal road to wealth.

PROBABLY, calculates an editorial writer in *Advertising and Selling*, "until the beginning of the third quarter of 1929, business was about 10 per cent. above normal," and "at present it is moving at a pace which is about 10 per cent. below normal." Of course, says Dr. W. Randolph Burgess, Deputy Governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, we are in the midst of a recession, but, in the first place, the actual decline in the volume of business activity is by no means as big as it sounds in common conversation; and in the second place—a most important fact, according to the Doctor—while "production is considerably deprest, consumption is very little deprest."

In other words, as Dr. Stephen I. Miller, Executive Manager of the National Association of Credit Men, tells a New York *Times* representative, the point "is being reached where replenishment of stocks on a large scale will be absolutely necessary if requirements are to be covered adequately." And that is why the Chicago *Economist* thinks:

Business is going to awake from an unpleasant dream some of these days with evidence of well-being on all hands, because the current cycle has already reached the point where the actual

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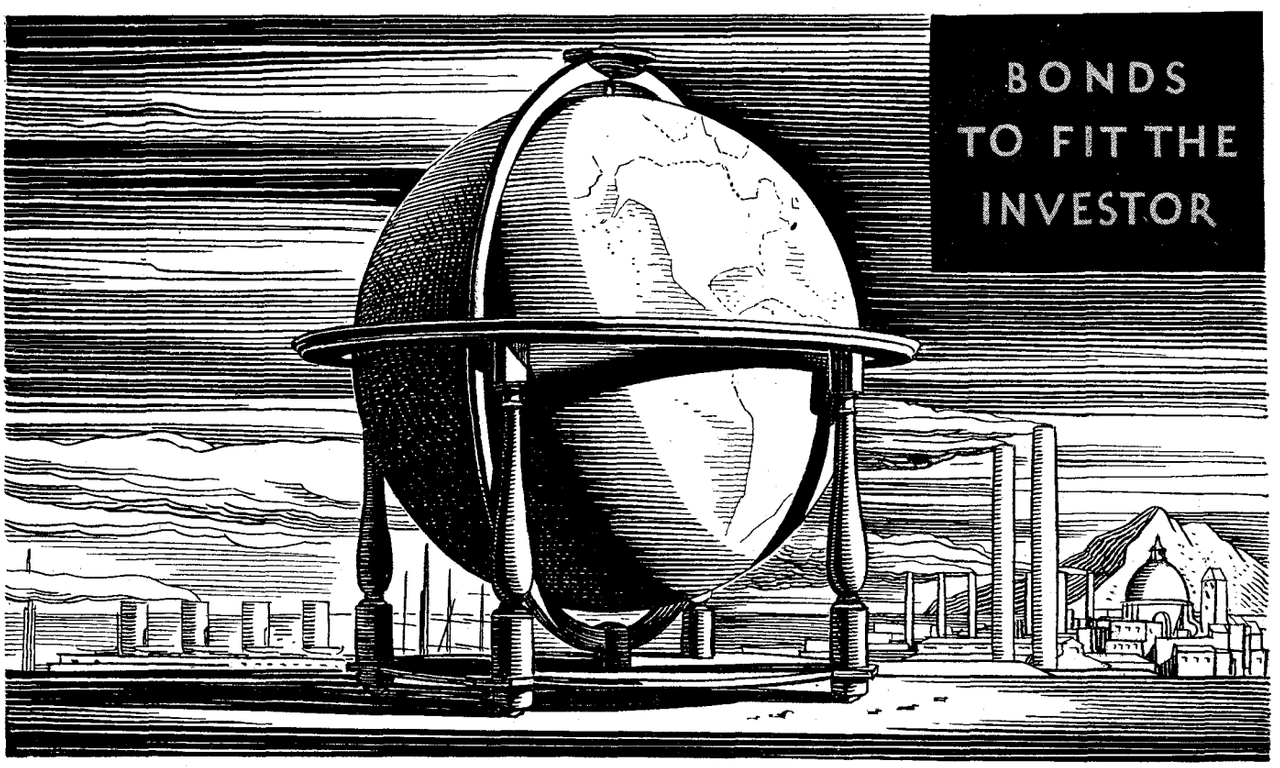

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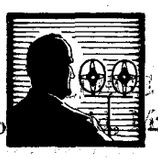

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INVESTMENTS AND FINANCE

Continued

state of affairs is better than generally appreciated.

Adjustments have gone far enough in most lines and restrictions are largely self-imposed.

One little boost to start the ball rolling and the strength of underlying factors will assert themselves in a way that will be startling in its suddenness.

NOW, what are some of these "underlying factors" that so many of our more cheerful prognosticators seem to be cognizant of?

Well, at least one periodical, *The Business Week*, is willing to come right out and name "eight solid facts that point to business upturn." We quote the list, including *The Business Week's* explanatory sentences where necessary:

1. Expanding Bank Credit. So long as this expansion continues, either price levels or the volume of business activity is bound to rise—or both.
2. Idle Money Seeking a Job.
3. Bare Shelves. The national larder is getting bare and a great shortage of consumer's goods has developed which will have to be made up quickly and on a large scale, unless consumer buying power is declining rapidly, which is not the case.
4. Sustained Public Buying Power.
5. Farm Income Prospects. The chances are that farm income will not be as low as in 1926-27, tho somewhat lower than last year.
6. Raw Materials Imports. American purchasing power for foreign raw products is being maintained, and basis for recovery in world prices of staple commodities is thus being laid.
7. Home Building. Residential building, which is a dominant factor in construction and general business activity, has ceased to decline, and is beginning to turn upward again.
8. Automobile Outlook. Further drastic curtailment of production in June and July may be expected to prepare the way for an upturn in August which would be supported during the four months by anticipation of a good year in 1931.

AND among straws that *The Business Week* thinks further proof of the turning of the business winds are the June sales of Packard cars, which broke the company's record for any June; and locomotive shipments by the Baldwin Company during the first half of the year more than double those of the corresponding period of 1929.

Much attention has been given to this interesting and vivid statement made recently at a convention of purchasing agents by Franklyn Hobbs, Research Director of the Central Trust Company of Illinois:

We approach the crossroads.

Probably within a month, and surely during the coming quarter, business activity will have passed the line established on the same date in 1929.

Last year we were up, and we went down; this year we were down, and we are going up. The two lines will soon cross, and that point will constitute the crossroads for all of us. We know what happened each month during 1929; we can, in reason, expect the business for a certain month not far ahead of us to match the business of that same month in 1929. And then we should go on up during the closing weeks of the year, entering 1931 on practically the level at which we entered 1929.

That's the business outlook as I see it.

Watch the wheel; get ready; make sure that you do not collide with business which you are not prepared to handle when you reach that crossroads next month, or soon after. Be sure you have materials on hand, or on firm order to enable you to carry on when the bigger demand for the product of your concern meets you at the crossroads.

USING more technical language, *Dun's Review* puts it this way: "Confidence in the longer outlook is supported by the operation of forces which are strengthening the basic structure, and prominent among these is the persistent trend toward a closer alinement between production and consumption." Even the low prices help, argues *The Wall Street Journal*, since they must be preparing the ground for trade revival as they have always done in the past—"falling commodity prices check production, but in the end they reach the level at which they move existing goods into consumption."

BUT when are we going to experience this revival?

Well, J. C. Royle, in his mid-year review for the Consolidated Press, hears from officials and economists he talks with that there will be improvement during the next three months, by which time the period of depression will have passed and "the following nine months of the 1930-31 fiscal year will show operations and profits of equal volume to those of the 1928-29 fiscal year."

"The reasons for believing that business will be better in August than in July, and better in September than in August, do not rest merely upon a basis of general hope," asserts Col. Leonard P. Ayres in the Cleveland Trust Company's *Business Bulletin:*

The automobile companies are definitely planning to increase their outputs in those two months, and the most important steel companies have orders, received or in sight, sufficiently large to increase their production materially.

The volume of new construction is slowly but persistently growing, and that industry seems able to hold its gains.

We are having the kind of bond market that is most effective in aiding business recovery. It is a market that is demonstrating its ability to absorb increasingly great volumes of new flotations at gradually advancing prices.

During the first half of this year all statistical comparisons have been made between the figures of an early month of 1929, when prosperity was advancing to boom proportions, and those of the corresponding month of this year, when depression prevailed. In the second half of this year such comparisons will make better showings, for in that portion of 1929 business activity was rapidly shrinking, and in the last part of 1930 it is likely to be gradually advancing.

From this time forward the sentiment of business should improve.

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The Illinois Merchants' Association concludes as a result of a survey that "the latter half of 1930 will show distinct improvement." Robert H. Bean, Executive Secretary of the American Acceptance Council, expects to see evidence of an upturn within the next eight or ten weeks. A survey conducted by the National Conference of Business Paper Editors and the Associated Business Papers brings the conclusion that business will improve some time between September and November.

WRITING in *The Magazine of Wall Street*, Theodore M. Knappen ventures the guess that "August will witness the cessation of the business retreat, but that the upturn will not be undeniably in evidence until after the first of the year."

Waddill Catchings, banker and economist, is quoted in the New York *American* as expecting distinct improvement in general business in the fourth quarter of the year.

H. Parker Willis, editor of the New York *Journal of Commerce*, notes a feeling in some business circles that the autumn pickup will be only seasonal—"this seems to put off the date of revival until the coming spring, altho even as to that date there are differences of opinion." Conclusion is reached by *The Brookmire Forecaster* that, while we are now in the last stage of a decline, "there will probably be little or no recovery before November," and "the return to fully normal business conditions will be deferred until some period in the first-half of 1931."

On the Pacific coast the Silberling Research Corporation of San Francisco notes an improvement of buying power in the South and West, but in general it observes that, while there are "definite indications of improved business conditions in the final quarter of the year, it does not follow that 1931 will be a year of intense or well-balanced activity."

MORE than usual caution characterizes mid-year utterances of our great banks. In its *Guaranty Survey*, the Guaranty Trust Company of New York calls attention to the subsidence of some of the optimism that prevailed earlier in the year. It is inclined to think that recovery in autumn is quite possible, the expectation being supported "by certain favorable conditions, such as low money rates, fairly well-maintained wage scales, and a generally moderate level of industrial and commercial inventories." On the other hand, there is a possibility that this may be a rather long drawn-out depression and that the decline in prices may postpone recovery. And even if there is real progress in the autumn—"whether such progress will be swift enough to re-establish business on what may fairly be considered a normal level by the end of the year is another matter." The National City Bank of New York is frankly puzzled in its current business letter:

How long it will take before the needed readjustments can be completed and trade

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INVESTMENTS AND FINANCE

Continued

and industry be in position to move forward once more on a sound and prosperous basis, obviously, can not be foretold with certainty.

Business pretty much the world over is sick, and it will serve the cause of revival better to face this fact squarely and with determination to take all necessary steps to eliminate the obstructive influences than to cherish an overoptimism as to the date and period of convalescence.

At the same time it is just as necessary to preserve a balance against unwarranted pessimism and to take account of encouraging features of the situation.

Industry Following Population Shifts

WHEN the final census reports show how population has shifted in the last decade, sharp changes in factory location will undoubtedly follow, predicts J. C. Royle in a Consolidated Press dispatch from Washington. Preliminary figures, we are told, already indicate that the country's center of population has moved west from Whitehall, Indiana, the 1920 center, and is probably located close to or even west of the Indiana-Illinois boundary line.

This, of course, interests manufacturers, because they can save in transportation costs by producing close to the center of population. And so, says Mr. Royle:

The Middle West is preparing for a period of industrial activity.

This is shown by the marked increase in the volume of electric power now available. The building of new central power plants is only in its beginning.

Then, too, the natural gas lines, which will eventually furnish fuel to scores of plants in the Mid-West, have already reached Illinois, and construction to Chicago, Detroit, Indiana points and Ohio centers will be only a matter of a few months, according to some authorities.

The railroads are preparing additional terminal facilities for handling the increased volume of goods for this section, and realtors are plotting out industrial housing sections in a score of cities.

BUT this doesn't mean that the manufacturers of other sections are giving up. They are studying these census shifts to find out what causes them.

Census authorities are said to consider the population increase in California is the main instrument in bringing the population center westward. And so, according to Mr. Royle, Eastern Coast manufacturers are planning to give more attention to water transportation or to establish branches on the Pacific coast. Incidentally, we are told that New England and other sections becoming more remote from the shifting center of population "are laying plans to cut costs in other directions to enable them to meet competition from firms with less haulage costs."

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CURRENT EVENTS

Foreign

July 9.—The British Labor Government escapes defeat by a vote of 278 to 275 on an amendment for tax exemption of extensive factory reequipment.

Addressing the Indian Legislative Assembly, the Viceroy, Lord Irwin, repeats his pledge that dominion status will be "the natural completion of India's constitutional growth."

Jean Mermoz, French aviator, attempting to fly from Brazil to Africa, is forced down by an oil leak about 350 miles off the African coast, and is rescued by the relief ship *Phocée*.

July 10.—Foreign Minister Briand reports to the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Chamber of Deputies that the French Government has assured Italy that during the next six months France will lay down no new ships, and says that the atmosphere for the resumption of conversations between the two countries has improved.

General Friedrich von Bernhardi, high German officer during the World War, who prophesied the struggle which broke out in 1914, dies in Berlin. He was 81.

July 11.—The Nanking Government in China is reported to have lost most of Shantung Province to the Northern rebels, and to be making a great effort to turn them back on the Tientsin-Pukow Railway in order to recapture Tsinan.

Followers of Mahatma Gandhi clash with police in Bombay, India, and twenty of them are seriously injured.

July 13.—The Turkish Government announces that it has supprest the Mount Ararat Kurdish revolt.

The Greek Government's answer to the suggestion of Aristide Briand, French Foreign Minister, for the formation of a Pan-European Union says that the creation of permanent machinery for systematic political and economic cooperation among European States, within the framework of the League of Nations, is in accord with the Greek Government's ideals.

The Roumanian Government takes active steps to stop anti-Semitic excesses, and orders the arrest of all agitators.

July 14.—In a private audience with Mgr. James H. Ryan, Rector of the National Catholic University at Washington, Pope Pius warns the United States to "beware lest Bolshevism spread in America at this moment of financial depression and unemployment."

The Italian Ambassador at Paris informs Foreign Minister Briand that Italy has decided to refrain until December from laying down the keels of any new ships, thus giving time to arrange for an agreement on all questions pending between the two countries.

The Nanking Government in China reports that it has punctured the Northern rebels' lines along the Tsing-tao—Tsinan Railway.

July 15.—A mob of Wafdists, or Nationalists, riots in Alexandria, Egypt, and before native troops and police regain control of the situation, fifteen civilians and one policeman, all Egyptians, are killed, and sixty injured, among them eleven Europeans.

The German Government reports that it welcomes the proposal for a political and economic European federation, but says that no European State should be excluded and that the principles of complete equality and equal security should be assured to all.

Domestic

July 10.—The Senate adopts, 38 to 17, the McKellar resolution, requesting the President to transmit all documents bearing on the London Naval Treaty, "if not incompatible with the public interest."

Five Kansas City men are killed in an airplane accident at Aransas Pass, Texas.

The last report issued by the old Prohibition bureau under the Treasury Department shows that during the year ending June 1930, 68,186 persons were arrested by Treasury Department agents; 1,308 more than the year before, and that the number of stills captured was 24,373, as against 17,146 in the preceding year.

July 11.—President Hoover declines to send to the Senate the various communications bearing on the negotiation of the London Naval Treaty, on the ground that it would be incompatible with the public interest, but agrees to show the documents to any Senator provided he will hold them in strict confidence.

William M. Jardine of Kansas, Secretary of Agriculture in the Coolidge Cabinet, is selected by President Hoover to be Minister to Egypt.

July 12.—Bobby Jones of Atlanta wins the open-golf championship of the United States at Minneapolis with a score of 287 for the 72 holes.

More than 100 people are reported dead from the hot wave that continued through the week in the Middle West.

July 13.—Writing to Ralph M. Easley, Executive Secretary of the National Civic Federation, Elihu Root suggests the creation of a special Federal police force to combat Communists' intrigue and propaganda, which, he charges, is directed by the Soviet Government.

July 14.—The American Civil Liberties Union issued a statement that Elihu Root's call for a Federal police force to protect the country against communism "is based on ignorance of law," and that the only thing not covered in the statutes is individual advocacy of violence against the United States.

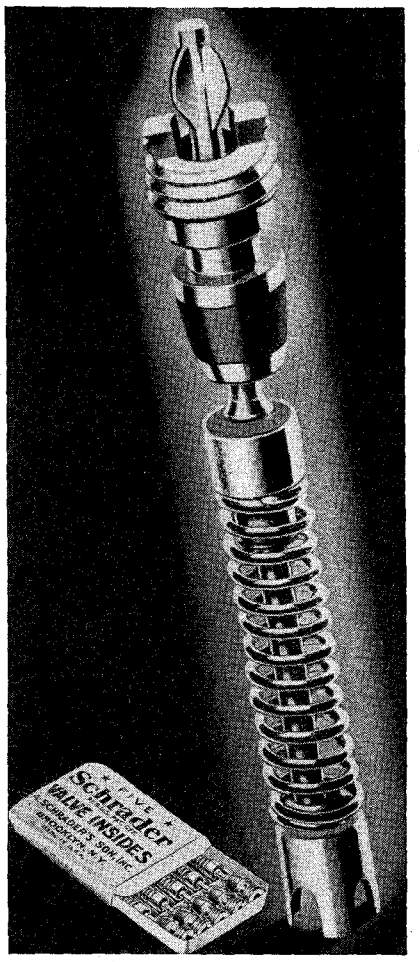
Hoffman Philip, of Washington, who has been in the foreign diplomatic service for twenty-one years, has been chosen by President Hoover to be Minister to Norway.

July 15.—Senator Reed of Pennsylvania introduces to the Senate the original American proposal in the London Naval Conference, marked "secret," virtually the same as has been made public in the press.

Passing the Buck.—PRODUCER—"If I make you a star, you must lead a life of strict decorum."

ACTRESS.—"But can't my understudy do that?"—*Everybody's Weekly* (*London*).

ONE
SECOND
is enough



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THE SPICE OF LIFE

(TITLE REGISTERED IN U. S. PATENT OFFICE)

Vocal Vesuvius.—About Floyd Gibbons: Why does he all talk at once?—*Life.*

Getting His Money's Worth.—A Scotchman, intending to put in a long-distance telephone call, tried to make arrangements for Floyd Gibbons to do the talking for him.—*Judge.*

Meeting Her Match.—Plaza Pete says he really hasn't anything against Floyd Gibbons, but he sometimes wishes his wife had Floyd for a husband.—*Albany Knickerbocker Press.*

Why Pet Got Pettish.—She—"Anybody would think I was nothing but a cook in this household."

He—"Not after a meal here, my pet."—*Dublin Opinion.*

Relativity.—Teacher—"What is the difference between a flea and an elephant?"

Tommy—"Well, an elephant can have fleas, but a flea can't have elephants."—*Everybody's Weekly.*

Baffled Pacifist.—Judge—"The two men were fighting with chairs. Didn't you try to establish peace?"

Witness—"No, there was not a third chair."—*Buen Humor (Madrid).*

Innocent Mistake.—"Oh, Elinor, your dog has killed one of Reggie's prize roosters."

"Darling, I'm so sorry. But you mustn't blame poor Fido—how was he to know that it was a prize rooster?"—*Sydney Bulletin.*

Big Gun Curtain Lecture.—Mrs. Bindler—"Is there any difference, Thomas, do you know, between a fort and a fortress?"

Mr. Bindler—"I should imagine a fortress, my dear, would be more difficult to silence."—*Utica Press.*

Soft Boiled.—"Where did you get those big, tender, sympathetic eyes?" she cooed.

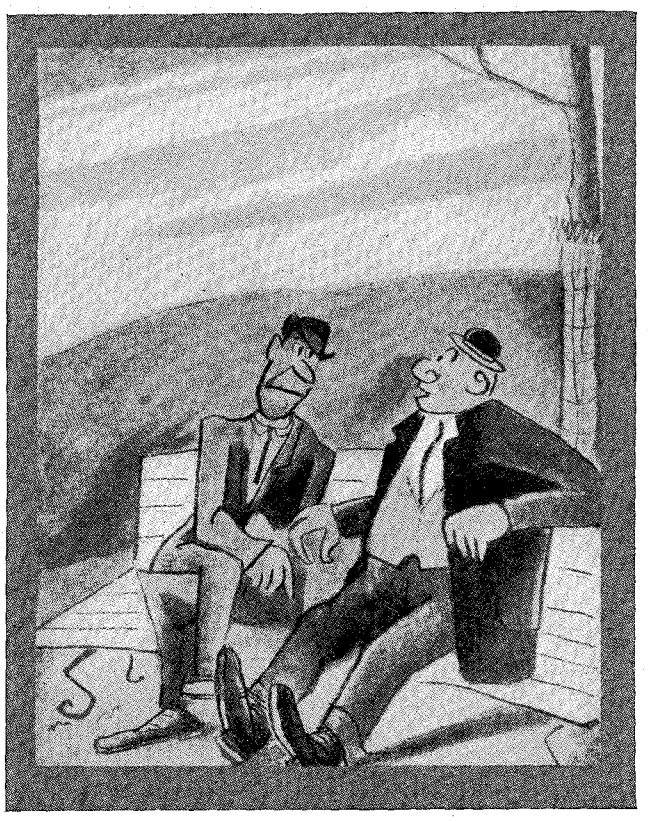
"Oh," replied the sailor, "they came with my face."—*Our Navy.*

Ker-Splash.—He (bragging about ancestry)—"Yes, my father sprang from a line of peers."

Bored Listener—"Did he drown?"—*The Owl.*

He'd Be Missed.—Judge—"Now, I don't expect to see you here again, Rastus."

Rastus—"Not see me again, Jedge? Why, you-all ain't going to resign, is you, Jedge?"—*Capper's Weekly.*



"How did you get here?"
"I dunno—I guess Mama spoiled me."
—"Judge."

Slips That Pass in the Night

Swat the Vegetable.—Swarm of Beets Puts Automobile into Ditch.—*Salt Lake Tribune.*

Friends in Need.—Send your MRS. to us for candid criticism and advice—*Ad. reprinted in the Humorist (London).*

Tough or Tender.—Capable woman will cook, housekeeper, children or elderly people.—*Santa Barbara Daily News.*

Bride in Luck.—Mr. and Mrs. H— will go to housekeeping on Elm rd. They have many friends to extend good dishes.—*Warren (Ohio) paper.*

Why Drag in Statistics?—Desire to correspond with congenial lady who is lonely; mention age.—*Casper (Wyo.) paper.*

Pass the Scrubbing-Brush.—Washings—Wanted, student and family, carefully washed by hand.—*Ann Arbor Daily News.*

Sweet Maturity.—Orangeized baseball was thought to have reached almost the limit of its growth.—*Philadelphia Public Ledger.*

Heaven Too Crowded?—
WIDOW OF 100
WON'T STAY DEAD
—*Los Angeles Times.*

Skunk or Styx?—Family difficulties lay behind John Wright's attempt to kill himself and then swim the Skunk River.—*Des Moines Register.*

Sporty Touch.—
TURKESTAN BUYS
TRACTORS WITH
HORSES' TAILS
—*Unidentified clipping.*

When Blossoms Fade.—"My fiancé spends too much money on flowers; every day he comes with an expensive bunch. I wish I could get him out of it."

"Never mind; you'll soon be married."—*Fliegende Blaetter (Munich).*

Solving the Agricultural Problem.—"Has that expert in farm relief been of assistance to you?"

"Some," answered Farmer Corntossel. "He showed me where I can put a good golf course on my land as soon as I can afford to play the game."—*Washington Star.*

The Taints Have It.—District Attorney Bob Stuart objected to Rogers calling the State's evidence "tainted testimony." His objection was sustained by Judge George F. Hosey, before whom the case is being tried.

"The testimony isn't tainted," Stuart declared.

"'Tis," replied Rogers.

"Tain't," voiced Judge Hosey.—*Fort Worth Press.*

Price of Silence.—Father of the Bride—"My daughter will have a dowry of $50,000, but of course I must make inquiries of your antecedents and prospects."

Suitor—"Don't make any inquiries and I will take her for $25,000."—*Dorfbarbier (Berlin).*

The Woman of It.—"So you asked Geraldine to marry you?"

"Yes, but I didn't have any luck."

"Why didn't you tell her about your rich uncle?"

"I did. Geraldine's my aunt now."—*Humorist (London).*

Glub!—

He rocked the boat,
Did Ezra Shank;
These bubbles mark
O
O
O
O
O
Where Ezra sank.
—*Whiz Bang.*

Often Does.—The will disposes of a million-dollar estate, the bunk going to relatives.—*Washington Star.*

Rash Act.—Mrs. C. Sick is sailing next Friday from San Francisco on a trip to Europe.—*Watsonville (Calif.) paper.*

Running Backward.—
HIS "PORTRAIT'' IN CELLULOID
Ancestors of Col. William Boyce Thompson to Get Movie Film
—*Kansas City Star.*

Nefandous is Right.—The petty thieving that has been gradually accumulating lately in our beauteous village is a disgrace. It is also an enormous atrocity, leaving our village in a stigma.

The unanswerable michery of this year alone is nefandous. These inveterate, incongruous persons with a malignant disposition, whoever they are, should immediately be dealt with by the law.—*Wawanesa (Manitoba) paper.*

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THE LEXICOGRAPHER'S EASY CHAIR

(TITLE REGISTERED IN U. S. PATENT OFFICE)

To decide questions concerning the correct use of words for this column, the Funk & Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary is consulted as arbiter.

Readers will please bear in mind that no notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

chain armor.—"J. B.," New York City.—Chain armor is defined in the NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY under *hauberk* and *mail*, where an illustration is given, but the date of its origin is unknown. It has been traced back as far as the fourth century, B. C., when the coat of mail consisted of a linen or leather shirt covered with metal scales. These scales were arranged in imitation of those of the fish; the smaller ones, those of a snake. Chain mail was known to the ancient Persian bowmen. The chain cuirass, however, is most likely of Oriental invention.

The Romans wore the *lorica* or cuirass. Pausanias gives an account of scale-armor, made from the hoofs of animals, a type that preceded the metallic scale-armor.

The Rhoxolani, a tribe allied to the Sarmatians, wore dress consisting of thin metal plates mounted on hard leather. The Persians wore tunics of the same description, the scales being sometimes of gold (see "Herodotus," 7, 61), but commonly of bronze. Heliodorus described the manner in which they were hooked together so as not to hinder motion. The basis of chain mail was skin or strong linen, to which metallic scales or "feathers," as they were sometimes called, were sewn.

Portions of chain mail, formerly of small riveted rings interlinked together, were found in the mosses of Sleswick. These date from about the third century, B. C. About the time of the Norman Conquest (the middle of the eleventh century) armor consisted of a hauberk, or tunic of mail, over the body, and hose of mail over the legs.

different.—"M. B.," Bristol, Vt.—This may be used with the prepositions *to*, *from*, or *than*, and others. In Great Britain, "different to" and "different than" are commonly used. See "Mend Your Speech," p. 24.

either.—"B. K.," Canton, Ohio.—*either* is correctly used of two only—either the one or the other. "On *either* side one and Jesus in the midst." It has sometimes been used loosely, however, for *any*, in referring to a larger number than two.

Elizabethan.—"F. M. A.," Williston, N. D.—In the United States, *E-liz'a-beth-an*—the second *e* as in *get*—is accepted as standard and is based on best usage for more than a century. The Funk & Wagnalls STANDARD DICTIONARY'S Committee of Fifty Scholars and Specialists were unanimous in endorsing this pronunciation. It is the pronunciation that was recorded by Worcester, and by the International Dictionary until 1893. Only since Dr. Henry Bradley introduced a Scottish pronunciation—which can not be justified by analogy or otherwise—in which the second *e* is pronounced as *ee* in *bee*, has the pronunciation, *e-liz-a-bee' than*, had vogue in the United States.

futile.—"W. S. P.," Shepherdstown, W. Va.—That which is *futile* is done in vain. Anything that brings about a waste of labor is futile, for the word means "of no avail"; "useless." The Latin *futilis* signifies "foolish, silly, shallow, idle, trivial; also, leaky, babbling, that which runs out easily, etc."

homology.—"B. M.," Sawtelle, Calif.—The stress is placed on the second syllable in the pronunciation of this word, *ho-mol'o-ji*—first *o* as in *obey*, second *o* as in *not*, third *o* as in *obey*, *j* as in *jet*, and *i* as in *habit*.

inflammable.—"J.A.C.," West Medford, Mass.—This word means "capable of being readily inflamed in any sense." Hence, easily set on fire, as gas, or excited, as public opinion. *Flammable* was formerly used for "easily set on fire," but is now obsolete.

nepotism.—"C. R. J.," Memphis, Tenn.—This word designates "favoritism, especially governmental patronage, extended toward nephews or other relatives."

roaring forties.—"M. G.," Alva, Okla.—(1) That part of the Atlantic ocean between 40° and 50° *north* latitude, or (2) that part of the South Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian oceans between 40° and 50° *south* latitude. These regions are noted for their rough seas and strong winds.

Spode.—"T. C.," New York City.—This is the name of an English porcelain made at the pottery of Josiah Spode in Staffordshire, England. Spode was born in 1754 and died in 1827. He manufactured dessert services, Spode cups, and Spode jugs or pitchers, large and long-lipped with a capacity of a gallon. When sixteen years of age, he is credited with having begun to make feldspar porcelain at Stoke-upon-Trent, and introduced into his composition crushed bone which was a soft base giving a very transparent body. His pieces were highly decorated with floral and ornithological designs, and were highly gilded. Succeeded by his son, the firm he established became one of the leading houses in the industry.

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Figure of a slave girl found in a tomb near Thebes

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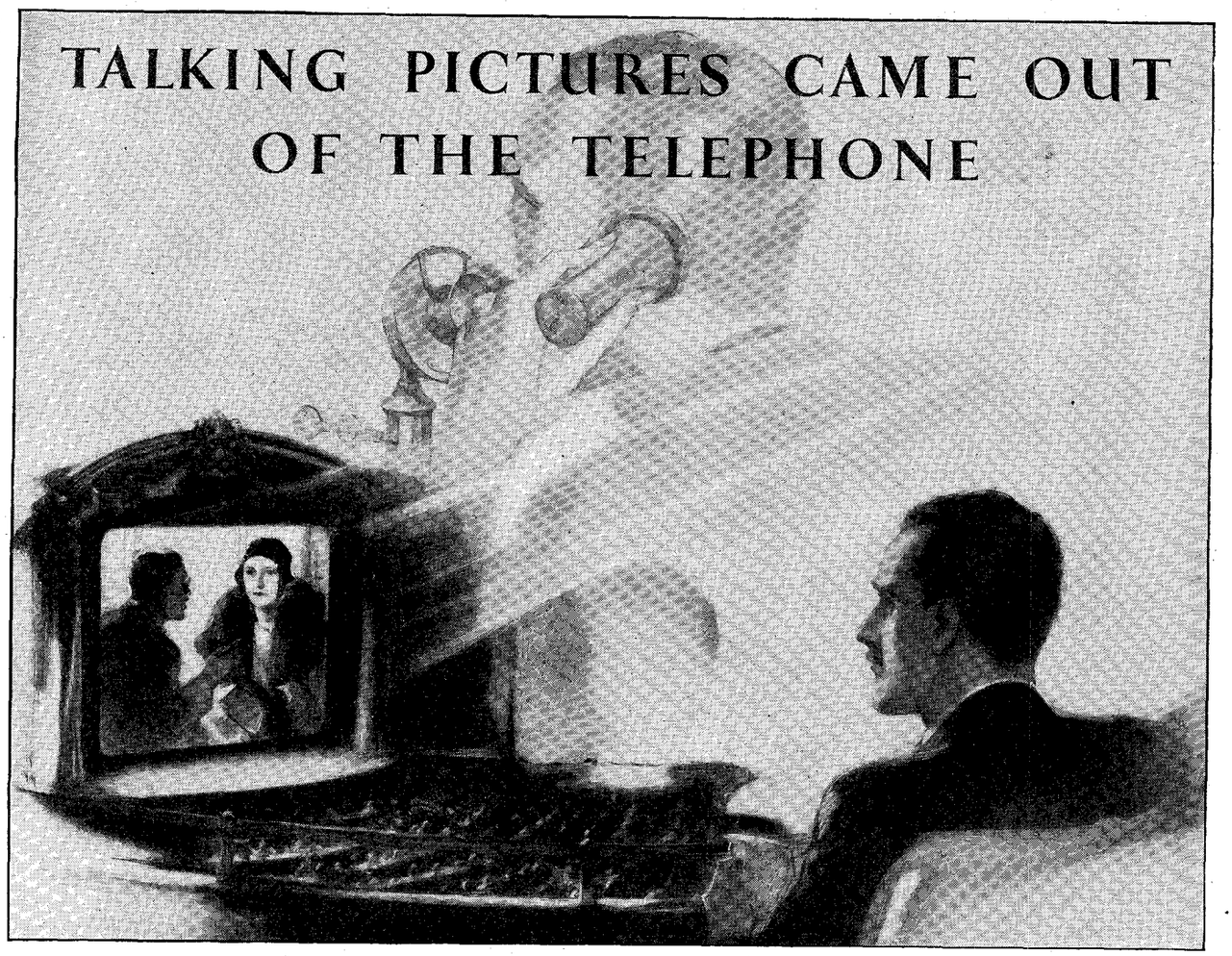

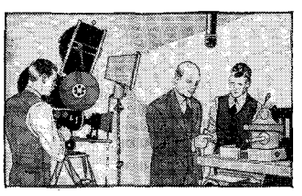

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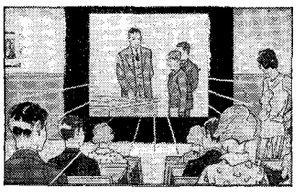

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